

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

[PRICE 6d.]

THE COST-BOOK SYSTEM—IMPORTANT JUDGMENT.

[Continued from last week's Mining Journal.]

Matters rested thus till April, 1853, when the plaintiff, by his solicitor, again applied to the defendants, and a further correspondence ensued, which continued to July, 1853. In August, 1853, this bill was filed. The bill alleges, amongst other things, — paragraph 11—“The defendants allege that the plaintiff had not paid certain calls made by the company on his shares therein, and that by reason thereof the defendants had a right and a power to declare his said shares to be forfeited, and that, accordingly, at a meeting alleged by defendants to have been held 31st May, 1850, at which defendants were alone present, and in the absence of the plaintiff, they declared the plaintiff's said shares to be forfeited, and they allege that thereupon he ceased to have any share or interest in the said partnership, or in its property or effects, whereas plaintiff charges that even were he in arrears of any calls duly made, which he by no means admits, the defendants had no right or power to forfeit his shares in the said company, for by the Cost-book System, as recognised in Cornwall, a company carried on on such a system, have no right or power to forfeit shares for non-payment of calls, unless there is a special provision to enable them to do so, written and entered in the cost-book, or Deed of Settlement, of such company, and there is no such provision written or entered in the said cost-book of the said Goldscope Mining Company, or in any Deed of Settlement thereof; and, moreover, the plaintiff charges that no resolution was ever duly passed by the said Goldscope Mining Company declaring his shares to be forfeited, and that no such resolution was ever passed by the defendants themselves, either on the said 31st May, 1850, or at any other time, and no minute of any meeting of the said company on that day, or of any such resolution passed on that day, is entered in the said cost-book, or in the minute book of the said company; and the plaintiff further charges that long after the 31st May, 1850, the day on which the defendants pretend they declared the plaintiff's shares to be forfeited, the defendants treated the plaintiff as being still a partner in the said company, and on the 26th of August, 1850, the defendant Chapman wrote and sent a letter to the plaintiff, in which he stated to the plaintiff as follows:—“Every day is increasing your proportion of cost in the adventure,” and by the said adventure the said Chapman meant the said Goldscope Mining Company.” The defendants, by their answer, deny these allegations, and insist upon the forfeiture, and evidence has been entered into on both sides as to there being or not being a custom in mines worked on the Cost-book System as recognised in Cornwall, to forfeit the interests of shareholders in the mines for non-payment of calls.

The cause was heard before the Master of the Rolls on the 9th June, 1854, and his Honour was of opinion that the alleged custom of forfeiture was not established, but that the declaration of forfeiture by the defendants on the 31st May, 1850, brought the adventure to a conclusion, so far as the plaintiff was concerned, and accordingly he (the Master of the Rolls) pronounced the following decree—a decree which declares that the adventure was concluded, so far as the plaintiff was concerned, on the 31st May, 1850, and directs these accounts to be taken:—“An account of what was due to and from the plaintiff, including the value of his interest in the money, stock, mines, and property of the adventure on the 31st May, 1850; and if it shall appear that any balance was then due to the plaintiff, it is ordered that an account be taken of the subsequent profits (if any) of the said adventure. And his Honour doth declare that in such case the plaintiff is entitled to so much of such profits of the said adventure as have been occasioned by, or are attributable to, that balance, as forming a portion of the capital of the said adventure, or to interest on such balance at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, at the option of the plaintiff; and it is ordered that the defendants do indemnify the plaintiff against the covenants and liabilities of the lease in the pleadings mentioned or otherwise of the concern—such indemnity to be settled by the judge, to whose court the cause is attached, in case the parties differ about the same.” Then there are the usual directions for making just allowances, and no costs on either side.

The decree, therefore, adopts the principle of the case of Wedderburn v. Wedderburn, and directing a valuation of this gentleman's interest in the concern, deducts from the value the arrears which were due from him, considers the rest as remaining in the partnership, and gives the plaintiff an account of the profits, so far as they have been derived from what, upon that estimate, is to be considered as having remained in the partnership.

The plaintiff has appealed from this decree. I fully agree with the Master of the Rolls in thinking that the evidence fails to establish the custom of forfeiture in which the defendants have insisted. The right of forfeiture is one *strictissimi juris*, and the evidence to establish such right ought to be clear and distinct. But the evidence on the part of the defendants on this point seems to me to be far from satisfactory.

The bill alleges that the right to forfeit exists only where there is a special provision for enabling it to be entered in the cost-book, or Deed of Settlement, and not upon custom independent of agreement; but the defendant's witnesses are silent upon this distinction. They are, indeed, that it is a principle and usage of the Cost-book System, as recognised in Cornwall and Devon, and I observe here that they introduce Devon into their evidence, although the original agreement between the parties referred to, the mode of carrying on the business in Cornwall, and not in Cornwall and Devon, and the county of Devon, is only introduced in the memorandum of the 6th of March, 1849. There is no reference that I can find in the cost-book to the custom of the county of Devon, except a very cursory reference to it in the memorandum of the 6th of March, 1849. However, they state that it is a principle and usage of the Cost-book System, as recognised in Cornwall and Devon, and that the company have power to declare shares forfeited for non-payment of calls. But this may very well be, if it be the custom in those counties to insert in the cost-book, or Deed of Settlement, a provision for enabling such forfeiture; and none of these witnesses state whether, in the instances deposed to by them, in which forfeitures have been declared, such a provision existed or not. On the other hand, the witnesses on the part of the plaintiff expressly take the distinctions between the cases in which the cost-books, or Deeds of Settlement, contain provisions for enabling forfeiture, and those in which such provision is contained, and wholly deny the existence of the right of forfeiture in cases of the latter class. And this evidence is strongly confirmed by what appears in the evidence of the plaintiff's witnesses, in which the plaintiff is not to declare the shares of defaulters forfeited, but to sell them, and hand back to defaulters the surplus proceeds, after payment of their calls in arrears.

I feel no difficulty, therefore, on this part of the case; and beyond this, I regret to say that I am unable to concur in the judgment of the Master of the Rolls. His Honour has been of opinion that the declaration of the forfeiture worked a determination of the adventure, so far as the plaintiff is concerned, and gave the defendants a right to take the plaintiff's share at its then value, accounting to him for the subsequent profits, so far as they may have been derived from the excess of the value above the amount that would have been due to him had he been concerned in the adventure, but I find myself unable to do so. This is an adventure in which, as to the material part of the property involved in it, there was a legal interest vested in the plaintiff up to the moment when the alleged declaration of forfeiture was made. The plaintiff had, beyond all question, a joint interest in the adventure; and it is difficult to say how the alleged declaration of forfeiture, which there was no authority to make, could operate to destroy that interest, or to alter or affect it. The decree seems to have proceeded on the ground that no time being limited for the duration of the adventure, the defendants had full power to determine it, and that it was determined by the declaration of forfeiture. But the object of the declaration was to determine the adventure, not as to all the adventurers, but as to the plaintiff alone, entitling the defendants to the plaintiff's share; and I do not see how, in the absence of any special provision for the purpose, the defendants could have the right so to determine.

Assuming, however, that the declaration of forfeiture worked a determination of the adventure, so far only as the plaintiff was concerned, does it follow that the defendants were entitled to take the plaintiff's share at its then value? In ordinary partnerships, dissolution of the partnership is not complete until the share of the winding-up of the concern. No partner is entitled to take to himself the share of another partner in the concern at its then estimated value, and without going the length of holding that mining adventures are to be considered in all respects as trading partnerships. I certainly am not prepared to hold that there is so great a difference between them as could entitle these defendants to take the plaintiff's shares. Special provisions may be, and no doubt generally are, inserted in agreements for carrying on mining adventures, to provide for the event of any of the adventurers making default in payment of their due proportions of the expenses of the concern; but if there be no such provision contained in the agreement, I cannot think that the adventurers who have paid up can be entitled to take the law into their own hands as against defaulters. Resort, as I think, must in such cases be had to a court of justice, to determine what is right to be done between the parties. Possibly the course adopted in the Stannaries Court may be that which, in ordinary cases, it would be right to pursue, but of course each case will be governed by its own circumstances.

It was said, however, that whatever might have been the plaintiff's rights if he had come promptly to the Court for relief, he is not now entitled to his interference; that whilst the adventure was doubtful he permitted the defendants to incur expenditure on the speculation, and that he has only come forward to assert his title when the adventure was likely to be attended with success. His letter of the 15th of April, 1851, certainly gives colour to this charge, and it is on this part of the case I have felt the greatest difficulty. The Court has least strongly against conduct of this description, and with great justice. Adventures of this nature are necessarily speculative, and it is unjust that parties who have refused to bear the burden of the expenditure whilst the speculation is doubtful should come in and claim the benefit of it when it has turned out to be advantageous. But, on the other hand, it would be scarcely less unjust to lay down as a general rule, that no shareholder in a mine shall be entitled to relief in equity when the adventure becomes unproductive unless he has paid up his calls while the adventure continued to be unproductive. Persons who enter into speculations of this description must be taken to have looked to the means of those with whom they embark in the adventure, and to calculate on the extra burden which may fall on them, if the means of their co-adventurers prove inadequate to meet the expenditure. They have besides, as I think, the right to resort to a court of justice to determine what is just to be done when their co-adventurers do not supply their just proportions of capital; it does not, therefore, seem to me it would be right to hold that the adventurers who continue in the concern would, in all cases, be entitled to appropriate to themselves all the profits of the adventure when it turns out to be advantageous, as against those who have failed to make good their contributions. Each case of this description must, I think, be governed by its own circumstances; and what is mainly to be looked at, in my opinion, is whether there has been a purpose of abandonment on the part of those who have made default in their contributions. If there has been such a purpose of abandonment, the parties cannot be relieved when the adventure becomes profitable. If there has not, why are the defaulting parties to be deprived of any benefit which may result to them from the other adventurers being compelled to resort to a court of justice for relief? Looking at the present case, in this point of view, I have thought not without considerable doubt, arrived at the conclusion that this plaintiff is entitled to relief. He distinctly asserted his title, and gave notice to the defendants that he disputed their right to forfeit his shares before the forfeiture was declared. His title was recognised by the defendant Chapman, under whom the defendant Clarke in part claims in August, 1849; for, notwithstanding what is said in the answer, I think that the letter of that date cannot be regarded otherwise than as a recognition of the plaintiff's title. He again asserted his title in April and October, 1851; and in November, 1851, he reasserted it, and in effect gave notice to the defendants that they would proceed at their peril; and, although he made no further assertion of the title until April, 1853, and did not file this bill until August in that year, I think he may fairly be considered as having rested during that interval upon the notice which he had previously given. I am the more satisfied at the conclusion at which I have arrived, as there is a legal interest in a considerable part, if not the whole, of these mines remaining vested in the plaintiff, and under the circumstances of this case I certainly cannot see any way to deprive him a trustee of that interest for the defendant Clarke, which, as it seems to me, would be almost the necessary consequence of holding that his beneficial interest in the property had ceased. I am still more satisfied with the conclusion, because I observe the plaintiff had paid up more than his share of the capital originally agreed to be subscribed. It appears, I think, he had paid somewhere about 400*l.*, the original capital, which was agreed to be subscribed, being 1500*l.*, his share of which, taking

the one-third, and the one-sixth of the one-third, would be less than the amount which, by the answer of the defendants, in paragraph 6, is stated to have been actually paid by him. Although, therefore, I think the plaintiff is entitled to relief, I think he is not entitled to it to the extent that is asked. There is a case of exclusion; and he is, therefore, entitled to a declaration that the adventure ought to be determined. But the expense of carrying on these mines had fallen on the defendants, and the conduct of the business had been left to them; and I think, therefore, the plaintiff must submit to the defendants being allowed interest on the excess of their expenditure beyond their due proportion, and must be put on the terms of not questioning any expenditure *bona fide* made by the defendants in carrying on the mines. It was argued on the part of the defendants, that after the declaration of forfeiture they could not have claimed against the plaintiff as a partner, and that he ought not, therefore, so to be permitted to claim against them. But the answer to this part of the question is, that the defendants were prevented claiming against the plaintiff only by their own unauthorised act. Several points have been adverted to such, for instance, that there was no declaration of forfeiture entered in the cost-book, and various other points of that description. It may be as well to add, that I think this case very clearly distinguishable from the case of *Prendergast v. Turton*, and that nothing I have said is intended in any way to detract from the authority of that case, in which I fully concur. Under the circumstances of the case, I think it will be better to reserve the question of sale.

The proper decree will be to declare that the adventure ought to be determined, and to determine it accordingly. To direct an account of all sums of money paid, laid out, and expended on and about the adventure, and of the sums contributed by the plaintiff and defendants respectively for that purpose. An account, also, of the produce and profits of the mines received by the plaintiff and defendants respectively, with directions that, in taking the accounts, the defendants be allowed interest at 5 per cent. on the excess of their expenditure, and that the plaintiff be not allowed to claim in question any expenditure *bona fide* made in carrying on the mines, the plaintiff undertaking to pay his due proportion of the expenses to be incurred beyond the receipts; appoint a receiver and manager to carry on the mines until further order, with liberty to each party to propose himself; reserve the question of sale for further consideration. There can be no costs if the bill and the decree must remain as it is; that there should be no costs up to the hearing.

Lord Justice Knight Bruce.—Although there are differences between *Turton v. Prendergast* and the present case—differences, I think, favourable to the present plaintiff, I am not sure that he has not so acted as to bring himself within reach of the principles on which that decision proceeded, so as to render the dismissal of his bill correct and proper course. I cannot, however, but recollect that he seems under the grant or let made by *Lieut.-Col. Wyndham*, to have acquired a legal title which legal title, if acquired, has not, in my opinion, been defeated or affected by anything that has taken place. It seems to me still available in a court of law to the plaintiff, and accordingly, as I view the matter, if he were to bring an action against the defendant Clarke, or against both the defendants, founded on that grant or let, and their disturbance or ouster of the plaintiff, as one of the grantees named in it, the action would be successful; and execution in it could not properly be restrained at law, or in another suit here, on any ground appearing on the evidence before us. These considerations, and a portion, at least, of the defendant's conduct, with reference to their dispute with the plaintiff, have made me doubt the propriety of dismissing his bill—a doubt increased by the view taken of the case by my learned brother; and, on the whole, I think that I may, consistently with my duty, accede to the order proposed by him, which, if the bill ought not to be dismissed, is, I conceive, the right order to make.

Mr. FOLLETT: Your lordship will, probably, give us a note of the decree.

Lord Justice Turner: Yes.

★ RATING OF MINES.

Mr. Michael Williams has presented the following petition to the House of Commons, from the Redruth Union for the Relief of the Poor, praying that the royalty, or dues, from the produce of copper, tin, and lead mines in the county of Cornwall, may be rated to the Poor and Highway Rates:

To the Right Hon. the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Hon. the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The petition of the Board of Guardians of the Redruth Union, in the county of Cornwall,—HUMBLY SHewETH:—

That in consequence of the peculiar nature of mining operations in Cornwall, the labouring miner is exposed to diseases and accidents which induce a premature incapacity to support himself, and a greatly diminished longevity, in consequence of which great numbers of widows and young families are yearly thrown on the parish for support.

That from the returns made to this Board by the several relieving officers of this Union, of the numbers and classes of persons who were relieved in the week ending the 31st of January, 1855, it appears that there were in all 1601 persons relieved, of whom 1250 were miners, and miners' wives, widows, and children.

That from the said returns it further appears that of the mining population so relieved, 360 were the widows of miners; that of the husbands of these widows 36 had been actually killed in their occupation, while 324 had for the most part died of miners' consumption, and that these widows had among them 604 children under 16 years of age, the whole dependent on their respective parishes for support.

That while the mines thus greatly aggravate the parochial burthens, they are at the same time progressively lessening the area over which those burthens are thrown: much land which has been heretofore assessed to the relief of the poor being yearly thrown out of cultivation by the extension of mining operations, and rendered no longer assessable.

That our constabulary force, and police and gaol establishments, are largely engaged in the protection of mining property, although the expenses connected with them are defrayed, for the most part, out of those Poor Rates to which the mines are specially and so unjustly exempted from contributing.

That in consequence of the great and heavy traffic of our mines, the expense of keeping our parish roads in repair is very greatly increased.

That until very recently the landholder has been usually assessed on a portion of the produce of the mines, which has been the custom to reserve to him as dues.

That it has been decided that by commutating these dues for the specific money payment, all liability to parochial assessment will be avoided.

That such a commutation has accordingly been very extensively made, and the entire parochial burthens, so aggravated by mining operations, as aforesaid, have consequently been thrown on the agricultural and trading portions of the community.

That the said commutation has, however, been made in a manner which has rendered a majority of the boarders themselves mine proprietors.

That this board is, therefore, in a position to form a correct judgment of the justice and expediency of exempting mines from assessment to the relief of the poor, and that while individually repudiating all claim to such an exemption, this board respectfully submits to your honourable House its deliberate conviction that such exemption is an unequalled, unjust, and inexpedient bounty to one class of the community, to the serious oppression of the rest.

That your petitioners humbly pray your honourable House to take the premises into consideration, and to enact a law whereby the said mines shall be subject to mining property to an equitable proportion of the public burthens.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

Sig ned, on behalf of the Board of Guardians, JOHN P. MASON, Chairman.

★ QUESTIONED RIGHT TO MINERALS BELOW HIGH-WATER MARK.—In the House of Commons, on Tuesday, Mr. Bell, at the request of the Government, postponed the questions he proposed to put to the Attorney-General, whether any and what progress had been made towards settlement of the rival claims of the Duchy of Cornwall and the Woods and Forests to minerals below high-water mark. It is perfectly useless for any person to go to Bay who has not a capital of at least 150*l.* or 200*l.*, as gold in that place is never found below reaching a depth of 120 feet. There is always much water, the only means of raising which is to draw it up the shaft kibble by kibble, and it is generally calculated that it takes about three months to sink such a shaft, and I have just described, during which time no money is made, and more than three-quarters of these sinkings are found not to be on the course of the lode when they get to the bottom, so that gold mining is just as much a lottery here as copper or tin mining in Cornwall. At Bendigo, and other shallow sinkings, people can still manage to pay expenses, except when the season is dry and to give them no water for washing the gold stuff. It is, however, now extremely rare for any person making much by the diggings. Some splendid nuggets are being sent home to be shown at the Paris Exhibition. I think they should append a statement of the number of persons who have been at the gold fields, and what proportion of them ever found large nuggets,—the proportion would be very small indeed.

★ PROSECUTION OF A COLLIERY ENGINEER.—At the Staffordshire Assizes, on Tuesday, Samuel Page, was arraigned on the coroner's inquisition for the manslaughter of Isaac Morris at Kingswinford, on the 9th of December.—Mr. Creswell, on behalf of the prosecution, informed the jury that an indictment against the prisoner for this offence had been thrown out by the grand jury. After carefully reading the depositions, he did not feel warranted in going on with the case, and, with his lordship's permission, he would withdraw it. He observed that the prisoner had been an engine-man at the Royton Colliery, and the deceased (Morris) was a pitman there. In consequence of being kept a long time at his employment without food, the prisoner, on the day in question, was suddenly seized with giddiness and in a fit of losing his temper over the engine, he seized a bar of iron and struck the deceased through the bottom of the pit.—The jury found the prisoner “Not Guilty.”—Mr. Scotland, who was instructed for the prisoner, informed his lordship that a simple invention was now in use, which if it had been attached to this engine, would have prevented this accident, and he thought it was a pity these men should be subjected to misfortunes of this kind through the negligence of employers to provide the preventive means at command.—Mr. Baron Martin: I am glad you have mentioned it, and I hope it will be taken notice of.—The prisoner was then discharged.

★ MINING IN AUSTRALIA.—The following is extracted from the communication of a correspondent of the *Cornish Telegraph*, dated Melbourne, Dec. 13:—“The diggings are comparatively little thought of now, particularly at this time of the year, when there is no water to wash the gold stuff. It is perfectly useless for any person to go to Bay who has not a capital of at least 150*l.* or 200*l.*, as gold in that place is never found below reaching a depth of 120 feet. There is always much water, the only means of raising which is to draw it up the shaft kibble by kibble, and it is generally calculated that it takes about three months to sink such a shaft, and I have just described, during which time no money is made, and more than three-quarters of these sinkings are found not to be on the course of the lode when they get to the bottom, so that gold mining is just as much a lottery here as copper or tin mining in Cornwall. At Bendigo, and other shallow sinkings, people can still manage to pay expenses, except when the season is dry and to give them no water for washing the gold stuff. It is, however, now extremely rare for any person making much by the diggings. Some splendid nuggets are being sent home to be shown at the Paris Exhibition. I think they should append a statement of the number of persons who have been at the gold fields, and what proportion of them ever found large nuggets,—the proportion would be very small indeed.”

★ AUSTRALIA AND THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—The colonies of Victoria and New South Wales will be well represented in the Paris Exhibition, a very large and valuable collection of gold and mineral specimens, &c., having been forwarded on board the *Argo* by the colonial authorities. Commissioners have come over to Europe in charge of these contributions, the special commissioner for Victoria being Edward Bell, Esq. The gold specimens from Victoria weigh in the aggregate nearly 3000*oz.*, and among them are nuggets of remarkable size and purity. They are contained in an immense case, about 11 feet square, made of the most beautiful specimens of wood found in the colony, and which cost 300*l.*. There are also specimens of various kinds of wood, wool, grain, animals, &c. Amongst the latter is the great tiger shark, 9 ft. long, caught in the bay of Port Phillip. The contributions from New South Wales comprises specimens of gold and minerals from every diggings in the colony, collected from different strata, from the surface to the bed of the rock. These specimens have been collected with great care by the Government commissioners.

MADAME TUSSEAU'S EXHIBITION.—Among the chief attractions of this well-known establishment is the portrait model of the late Emperor Nicholas of Russia. The Emperor is represented in the uniform of a Russian General, decorated with numerous military orders. The likeness is considered excellent, and the appearance of the figure highly characteristic; it is one of the best portraits in the present war group.

Original Correspondence.

CALCINATION OF GOLD-BEARING QUARTZ, WITH SOME REMARKS ON THE PRODUCE.

Sir,—Mr. John Arthur Phillips having recommended the calcination of the quartz from the Mary Harrison Mine, at Maxwell's Creek, Mariposa County, California, present held by the Quartz Rock Gold Mining Company, it has, I perceive from the nature of the correspondence in the *Mining Journal*, been inferred from this circumstance that almost all gold-bearing quartz can be made thereby to return profit. As may lead many persons astray and in costs for this operation, I trust to shed the following remarks, that it is unnecessary for the glass of gold-bearing quartz to be operated, other than that the quartz should become more friable, and somewhat less abrasion to the crushers or stamps. The operation has been recommended in England to make flint more easily reduced to the fine powder in which it is necessary to bring it, as well as the sulphure of lead (potter's ore), which it is mixed to form the glass which is seen on common earthenware. And quartz are composed of very nearly the same substances, as will be found by reference to any work on mineralogy.

The component parts of a ton of quartz from the Mary Harrison Mine may be as follows:—

Quartz, silica	Lbs.	1814 13
Peroxide of iron	160	00
Sulphure of iron (pyrites)	25	00
Gold, silver, &c.	0	3
Total (a miner's ton there)		2000 90

From the above it will be perceived that there is only 1½ per cent. of pyrites in ore; these hold gold, the same not being visible even when ground to the finest powder in an agate mortar, even with the assistance of a lens: in this I beg to differ from my friend Dr. Collyer. That there are some sulphurets of iron called the better the generic name of pyrites, to these, that certainly contain gold, both to the naked eye as well as when assisted by a lens I am aware; but it is its occurrence, so far as my experience goes.

On reflection, it will be seen that by calcining the gold-bearing quartz in bulk, at least such as that operated upon by Mr. John Arthur Phillips, that it must be a waste of time and fuel for any other purpose than to make the quartz more friable, and thereby easier ground by the crushers, stamps, or other class of grinding mill. The being only about 25 lbs. of pyrites to every 2000 lbs. of gold-bearing quartz, the gold for which would cost 92½*l.*, being the value of one cord of wood, which weighs 222½*l.*, now, it is well known that this ore would require for every 2000 lbs. of ore, one cord of wood to calcine or roast it in heaps in the air; besides which, from experience in California, this class of quartz does not yield, after roasting in this manner, by 50 per cent. as much as it would in the crude state, for which there are reasons, when we consider that the sulphur of the pyrites forms sulphate of iron with the ash of the wood used for calcining by this method; this substance may be seen forming glaze on the calcined stones, and on analyses was found to contain arsenic and copper. Mr. John Arthur Phillips, I have been given to understand, recommends square open furnaces, lined with iron, with the good intention of saving gold from waste, which is to be seen as smallish shreds on the faces of the stones after calcination, and must often crumble away; but careful sweeping recovers all the gold always found that the stones of ore calcined after this manner, in their centre, are almost in a crude state, showing clearly that the calcination of such gold-bearing quartz was not benefited by the process proposed. When the gold-bearing quartz holds 25 or 50 per cent. of pyrites, some good might be obtained by this calcination, and might, probably, cause the ore to yield up the gold in the first amalgamation process in increased proportions; but generally, I conceive, it does more harm than good, by causing to be formed soluble salts of gold, which go off in the water. The advantage gained in causing the quartz to be more friable of the class, the components of which have been given may be said to be doubtful from observations I made at the Cornish Mine, in North Wales—e.g., that the stamps and crushers worn out very nearly in the same time, whether employed to grind crude or calcined ore; the same was observed at the stamping mill, near Quartzburg, California.

For calcining ore containing pyrites I consider there is no better furnace than the reverberatory calciner, used for yellow copper ore in England and Germany.

My experience leads me to suppose that the great difficulty to be overcome in ore to make gold-bearing quartz return profit, in both California and Australia, is in establishing a cheap system for reducing the quartz to a fine powder, that is, through a wire sieve with 45 holes to the linear inch, or which is the same, 3475 holes to the square inch. The processes which follow the grinding are comparatively easy; and from all I have witnessed in England, Mexico, Spain, and California, I should prefer the Cornish crusher for crushing ore up to the size of a strong wire sieve with four, six, or eight holes per square inch would give, for all the gold-bearing quartz of any of the districts I have visited, or have heard of, ports upon. There are no parts of a Cornish crusher (that could crush 50 tons per 10 hours) of such weight that a good American teamster would not place in any part of the mountainous districts of California.

Whether stamps or the Mexican arrastra should be used after the crusher for gold-bearing quartz, to be reduced to the fine powder above mentioned, has still to be decided. I should prefer the Mexican arrastra, where the proper stones can be obtained for the bottoms and grinders, or a modification of these might be introduced, made of cast-iron: there are two worthy of notice, one by Dr. Collyer, and the other by Mr. Wright, of San Francisco, California. For the forming of the arrastra, granite, porphyry, or granite may be made use of. The bolters of the quartz, as it is called, cannot cheaply be made use of, as the bringing them into shape is so expensive, and they soon lose shape, and destroy much of the grinding surface of the arrastra. For calcining stones, such as are indicated, Cornish or Scotch stone-mills would be required, who had been accustomed to work granite into rough blocks. Two classes of stones recommended are obtained about Mariposa Town, near Mount Ophir, Mariposa County, California; and nearly the same classes of stones can be obtained for the gold mines near Doligully, North Wales, and around their sites.

For the amalgamation process, I prefer that patented by Messrs. Jordan and Bowden of the Colonial Gold-works, Rotherhithe, with certain improvements. This plan takes up a large portion of the gold, as the ground-stuff passes through the hydraulic process. The waste from this process should pass through a circular bullock wheel, which will separate all ponderable metals to be obtained with some of the metallic particles of gold which have not been taken up by the quicksilver in the hydraulic process; and some metallic particles of gold would get away with the water there is doubt in my own mind, or will there be in that of any one accustomed to metallurgical processes when water is used, and more so when manipulating with quicksilver. One of the improvements I would make in the Jordan and Bowden process is in heating the deposits of quicksilver to 180° or 200°, being about that temperature, to form the amalgam from the ore, and the waste would be a great deal better. The concentrated residues from the bullock wheels should be carefully analysed, to determine the component parts. Should there be much blende (sulphure of zinc), it may sell well; this is likely to be the case with nearly all the gold ore in Wales. The Californian gold-bearing quartz does not contain a sufficient quantity of blende to make it available, from all my observations on the spot.

The produce of the bullock wheels from the gold-bearing quartz would be oxide of iron and pyrites. The same would require to be 12 hours in the calcining furnace; and when the furnace has been properly constructed, there will be no inconvenience to the workmen from the obnoxious fumes, either in turning over the charge, or during the discharge, as has, I hear, been complained of by the workmen employed on this process at Gold Hill, Grass Valley, California. I will from now on, that it requires from four to six months to form a good calcining furnace, and to make the causes of delay in perfecting works for metallurgical operations.

In countries where lead ore is to be obtained cheaply, the produce of the calcining furnace may be smelted and refined in the usual way.

The smelting of gold-bearing quartz in California by any of the known processes, I fear, out of the question, as there are no fluxes to be had. Lead ore is not known, turquoise or sesquicarbonate of soda not nearer than Chili, and limestone is very scarce.

Even for Mr. Longmaid's process of smelting, I fear little could not be produced in sufficient quantities. Sheet-iron, one of his fluxes, is procurable at a high price in the lead his system requires would have to be taken from England or Spain. On the whole, I fear this system would absorb too much capital for plant and fuel, and daily to be reduced and smelted. The produce of Mr. Longmaid's first process would be refined on a test, in the usual method employed for all ores not available where there is no flux. From the test, it is a very clear case, that it would not be available where there is no flux. This process is being tried in the Brazil, but, up to the latest advice, it has not succeeded: this should not deter parties from following up this admirable process, indeed, it should be more generally recollect that it requires always some money for establishing new concerns and new processes.

In Mr. John Arthur Phillips's report to the Quartz Rock Company it is not stated out in what state the 3 dwts. of gold per ton remain in, in the tailings, whether in a fine metallic state, or combined with the pyrites, in any of the dissolved combinations, nor whether it would be advisable to look for them in any way. Now, it has been shown in lately-published reports on these matters that 3 dwts. of gold per ton pay expenses, if not more, in Australia, it is, therefore, natural to suppose they can be made to do the same in California, as the cost for wages and materials are the same in both countries; and it must be borne in mind that while the gold is referred to in a forward state of pulverisation, and would require to be ground to make them in a fit state for further concentration; this second grinding is required to make them concentrate with greater ease. That these tailings may be made to return a profit the following calculations will show:—

30 tons of these tailings, with 3 dwts. of gold per ton, would hold 150 dwts. or 7 ozs. 10 dwts.

Say, in the concentration the 7½ ozs. would be reduced to 7 ozs., as all very fine gold would have escaped in the first process.

Remain 7 ozs. of gold would be worth, at 31*l.* 17s. 6d. per ounce, as they would come out at about standard quality.

The costs of dressing 50 tons to 1 ton, take at eight times that what it costs in England.

Costs for amalgamation and calcining, say the same as Mr. John A. Phillips has stated.

Profit per 2000 lbs.

By this showing, there would be ample for greater costs and loss in dressing tailings, and wonderful things are now doing in dressing tin ore in Cornwall, which and gold ore there is great similarity, both having a very small quantity of valuable stuff in a large amount of matrix.

10, Gloucester-street, Kensington.

Sir,—Referring to our late interesting conversation on the subject of quartz, I have been thinking, that, if you have no objection, I should like to pursue the subject a little further, with a view to elicit reliable data as to the actual applicability of quartz in this country to the furtherance of a legitimate investment of capital in the mining enterprise, and not in a capacious spirit of inquisition into the position and policy of the companies engaged in such operations. I feel convinced that, in whatever manner you may respond to the queries I wish to propound to you, your experience and honourable position will at least entitle your opinions to respect and consideration.

quartz mining, as a distinct branch of industry, prior to the working of Messrs. Palmer, Cook, and Co.'s mine, in Mariposa County?

What was the geological feature which rendered the mine so valuable, and what relation did it bear to the property, and what general result, bearing on quartz mining, was the result?

Has Palmer, Cook, and Co.'s vein been uniformly worked from date of location? If so, with what general average result? If not, why?

What is your opinion as to any general specific characteristic of auriferous quartz rock, as it occurs in the northern, central, and southern districts respectively?

Have you ever noticed any general uniformity of yield in auriferous quartz veins, and have you ever observed any decided change in the quality, either for better or worse, on working such ore at a greater or less depth below surface, or such as are at or near the outcrop?

Have you ever observed any particular geological position peculiar to the more productive veins, and different to the non-productive veins?

Will you kindly point out cases in point, illustrating the last two propositions?

In your opinion, what is the reason why quartz mining, which was originally confined to such magnificent terms, has, up to the present time, been so comparatively unproductive and unattractive?

Under what circumstances (if any) can quartz mining be reasonably expected to be the employment of capital?

Do you think that the general non-success of quartz mining hitherto has depended upon circumstances, either natural and beyond control, or artificial and upon professional error or fallacy in development?

What, in your opinion, is the style of mill best adapted to a quartz rock reduction, wherein both crushing rollers and stamps are to be employed, the mill of sufficient capacity to thoroughly reduce 20 tons of stuff, on an average, per week, for 12 months?

What do you consider to be the amount of capital at present embarked in quartz mining, and what returns do you consider have been made therefrom?

What, in your opinion, is the reason why the English quartz mining operations have turned out such signal failures?

Agreeable to you, I should be pleased to discuss and argue with you the several points I have here made the bases of enquiry, when, as I trust, I shall receive your ready replies.—To R. G. K., Esq., Grass Valley.

J. H.

San Francisco, California, Oct., 1854.

Dear Sir,—Your letter has just been received, containing a series of very pithy and important questions relating to Californian mining, which you request me to answer. I will do so, as well as the short time allowed and my poor ability will permit. I regret exceedingly that you did not direct your queries to some person who could reply to them in a manner commensurate with the high interest they involve.

No. 1.—Messrs. Palmer, Cook, and Co.'s mine, in Mariposa County, was quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 2.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 3.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 4.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 5.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 6.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 7.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 8.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 9.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 10.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 11.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 12.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

No. 13.—The country of the mine is the usual clay and talc-slate formation; the hill, as it is called, is very clearly developed, and is often 4 ft. in thickness. There is a deep adit, not far from the surface, which would give more than 120 ft. of ground; the dip to the heart of the hill at an angle of 45°. The mine is about a furlong from the town of Mariposa, and consequently is on the Frémont estate. Immediately on its giving three bunches of rich ore, which were met with at the intersection of two veins, one amounting to \$5000, another to \$14,000, and the last to \$9000, with quartz mining worked in California under the rich specimens got out of it gave rise to the Anglo-Californian mining mania.

and are not nearly so easily managed as those whom the agents may procure here, and discharge instantly if their conduct does not suit.

I shall always be glad to give you any information in my power on mining affairs in this country.—To J. H., Esq.

AN OLD MINER.

THE AGUA FRIA GOLD MINING COMPANY.

Sir,—In the column of Notices to Correspondents, in last week's Journal, I perceive that reference is made to my letter to you of the preceding week, relative to the Agua Fria Gold Mining Company. As the notice in question is without a signature, rest or initials, I presume it is intended to bear the stamp of your own editorial authority; and, if so, nothing can be more highly satisfactory than your statement.

I beg to assure you that it is far from my intention to impute to any one connected with the company the capability of "garbling the despatches," in the injurious sense of the expression which you deprecate. It is true, I cannot help thinking that the managers of the company, in their laudable desire not to excite too vivid hopes by an overstatement of their case, have sometimes considerably understated it—a fault, but one, unquestionably, on the right side. In the instances to which I alluded, certainly they appear to have done so; and I am not sorry that I drew attention to it, because it has enabled you to put the matter right.

In the extract alluded to, from Mr. Atwood's despatches, the mill was represented as having been at work for other people, and had gained enough almost, but not quite, to cover its expenses. I do not happen to have that number of your Journal now before me, so as to quote again the precise words, but the idea which the extract conveyed to my mind, and which it was calculated, I think, to convey to the understanding of the generality of your readers was that, so far from working to a profit, we were somewhat at a loss by our operations. My observations, made upon that understanding, were to the effect that, if there were not something more in the despatches not published which tended to explain and modify that statement, the sooner the shareholders looked their affairs boldly in the face the better.

It would appear, from your present notice of my letter, that there must have been something of an explanatory nature, for I am sure you would not, otherwise than on the most ample authority, make the statement which you now do—viz., "that they are enabled to crush for other parties at a handsome rate of profit to the company." I am glad to see that a special meeting of the shareholders is convened for an early day. Will you let me take this opportunity of publicly requesting the directors to issue their printed report a short time previous to the meeting? for, if they are to act as they did last time, and place the report in the hands of the shareholders only just as they enter the room, it is quite impossible to examine the document carefully, and attend to the viva voce proceedings of the meeting at the same time.

Selby, March 20. A SHAREHOLDER.

SULPHURET OF GOLD.

Sir,—Mr. Byers asks, "How Nature preserves her sulphuret of gold from decomposition?" She preserves it by locking it up in rocks, veins, and lodes, out of reach of the chemical and electrical influence of the elements that would decompose it; for, as long as the ore remains in the earth, it is safe from the action of the elements, and takes a long time to release it unless it were finely ground, and exposed to the weather; but that is so tedious a process, that it has discouraged and tired the patience of many who have attempted it; and, with the exception of some of the old natives in a few unproductive regions, Nature alone is contented to spend years in decomposing and re-arranging her chemical combinations; for, if left to her own slow course of proceeding, she, perhaps, might take centuries to produce the few grains which the digger would greedily collect in as many hours.

On referring to your report in last week's Journal, of a paper read before the Geological Society, on the subject of the decomposition of the sulphuret of gold, I observe that my old statements, with regard to the nature of quartz veins, as they descend in depth, and the decomposition of rocks containing auriferous ore, have lately been adopted by some one, and laid before that society. I am quite contented to be robbed of my various discoveries, and see them rehearsed by others, provided the world be benefited, and advance the smallest step in this difficult science; but I hope Mr. Byers will not think me hard, if I keep him a little longer in the dark with regard to my artificial process of decomposing the sulphurets; for it is one of my own discoveries, and I consider it one of the most important, and I hope to derive some little advantage from giving it to the public; and there are several waiting to rob me of it, and, I believe, has gone so far as to patent the general outline, in hopes that I would soon disclose the detail.—Swansea, March 20. JOHN CALVERT.

DEATHS FROM FALLING DOWN PITS.

Sir,—In the last week's *Waterhampton Chronicle*, I read that an adjourned inquest was held on the body of William Morgan, whose death was caused by falling down a pit at Boughly Colliery, either from the negligence of the engineer or bankswoman, Sarah Dixon.

I have known many accidents resulting from the same cause; indeed my own mine agent very narrowly escaped recently a similar fate. It is my firm conviction that with the present means of landing now in use similar accidents will occur, and without any negligence of the engineer, bankswoman, or bankswoman, for it very often happens that something prevents the wagoner or runner from being either pushed over the pit or withdrawn from it in time. I now beg to inform the public that I am negotiating with a party to make several of my patent landing machines, and that I shall deliver them to the public, and I hope to derive some little advantage from giving it to the public; and there are several waiting to rob me of it, and, I believe, has gone so far as to patent the general outline, in hopes that I would soon disclose the detail.—Swansea, March 20. JOHN CALVERT.

LIGHTS PROCEEDING FROM LODES.

Sir,—I am surprised to find that none of your able correspondents have satisfactorily answered the query respecting lights proceeding from lodes. One of your correspondents seems to think the idea chiefly to have originated in old fire-side tales, hobgoblins, ghost stories, and falling meteors, which make timid people think the light is coming from the lode; but, surely, any man of common sense or partial enlightenment can tell whether a light arises from the earth or from a falling meteor; a falling meteor cannot proceed along the surface of the earth in a given direction—say, a mile. My opinion is that lights arise from certain mineralised lodes throwing up their heat or electricity, and which at times ignite, when coming in contact with the air. I hold that such lodes are full of minerals, or they would not throw up the heat, or lights, which proceed therefrom, and when once ignited the lights proceed on the backs of the lodes, and hence what is termed in Cornwall "Jack-will-the-Lantern."

I have seen the light arise from the earth, and proceed over ground which is now turning out to be a lode; and I have seen the light arise from a mine, and, at about the height of 2 ft. from the ground, it went in a straight direction for about a mile, for which I saw it; and hence I must come to the conclusion that it arises from lodes forcing up the heat of the minerals.

St. Austell, March 21. JUNIUS.

ON HOT AND COLD WATER IN MINES—CARBONIFEROUS ROCKS—WHEEL FRIENDSHIP—EAST WHEEL RUSSELL.

Sir,—In accordance with my promise last week, I here briefly reply to "A. K." Wheel Friendship, I am not at all in a hurry to do so, but I know of no law to cause it to be so. I often find it a few degrees warmer than the water in warm springs, which have been used to irrigate meadows, rise from the backs of extraordinary rich lead lodes, of recent formation, before they were disturbed. I think "A. K.'s" own remarks settle the question as to what hot air and water indicate; of course, we always find some dissensions.

Never having seen a light rise from the earth, or any one to affirm it that I could put confidence in, I shall pass that subject for the present.

Wheel Friendship, lode, going west, I have never particularly examined; it may present a very promising appearance; but it has been under a wake-eyes for the last fifty years, and Wheel Friendship has been throwing out splendid baits during that period. If these lights have been so often seen, why has it not been worked? There would be no difficulty in obtaining the sett. Parties who get up these reports have often the cunning of foxes—they go from home to decoy their prey. "A. K." had better beware of them.

Carboniferous rock, to my knowledge, has never yet proved productive to miners in either Cornwall or Devon. Wheel Friendship is in clay-slate, and there is no bulk of useable lime within five miles. I am not aware if it contains even sufficient to form any of the carbonates of lime or fluorspar about the lode. "A. K." might as well set down Bottle Hill Tin Mine as being in carboniferous rock as Wheel Friendship because there is lime rock at Plymouth. Respecting the western ground at Wheel Friendship, on the line of the lodes west, after it passed the great series of deposits, or branches, is not much to be valued; corresponding deposits of copper should be looked for in parallel lodes, in either a north-east or south-west direction from Wheel Friendship main branches. Who would think of going to Great Hewas or Roach to look for Great Hewas and Towardish channels of copper? Turning again to carboniferous rock, they are very common, and produce a few tons of copper or lead; but the stratification is often overcharged with iron, and never holds copper, lead, or sulphur in solution sufficient to form large bodies of either. It is on these grounds I have constantly opposed mines in those districts, such as Wheel Hamlyn, Exmoor Wheel Eliza, Poltimore, and the Prince of Wales, not omitting Molland. A few tons, as I said before, may be found, or even a few hundred tons, or a mine might even pay expenses for a short period, but they are not the districts for men who have only a few pounds to speculate with to engage in; those localities may be said to be barren of mineral wealth. Let any practical man, who has well studied his business, examine the backs of lodes in the districts, he will find the majority of them loaded with saleable iron ore; then let him look around in the two counties, and point out a good mine for copper, or even lead, under similar backs, though a lead lode will bear a stronger back of iron than a copper lode. It is on these grounds I have ever had my doubts respecting East Wheel Russell, which is certainly in a copper district, but the lode shows too much iron on the backs. If there was a large body of copper below the iron should have crystallised with it. If the lode below is not deficient of sulphur and copper, the adjoining rocks must be exceedingly overcharged with iron. I thus expressed my views on the commencement, and have anxiously watched the result. On seeing Capt. M. Francis's sanguine reports, I was at one time all but led to believe that it could no longer be used as a precedent, but his reports are not yet verified. The per centage of iron certainly is not up to the mark as saleable. I have particularly wished to examine the lode below, having repeatedly obtained orders to go into the mine; yet, whenever I call, there is some mishap—water in, or the agent away on some particular business.

For the benefit of mining generally, I hope the parties will thoroughly try this sett, and if it proves a productive copper mine, well! If otherwise, I think there will be a point gained—i.e., a precedent of iron-backed lodes being unfavorable indications as to large bodies of copper being formed below. This lode is far more likely to produce the grey sulphuret, or red oxide, than the common yellow sulphuret of copper; the two former are seldom found in these districts in sufficient quantities, it is the latter we have to look to for profitable copper mines.

I pass over iron-bound stratifications, leaving them for iron miners and gold finders. The reason of the lack of a copper lode should be light, containing no saleable siliceous, with a small portion of alumina, lime, &c., barely coloured with the oxide of iron. These substances were carried up at the time Nature's chemical action was taking place in the lode below; if slight traces of copper are seen at a few fathoms deep, all the better, but not too much. Whenever the back of a lode is found with any one substance predominating largely, excepting siliceous, depend on it something is wrong below. But a miner must have a discriminating eye to examine the upper portion of a lode. I really wish we were better chemists. Some lodes may be said to contain no gossan on the backs, and yet are productive in depth. I am aware there

are many large lodes which have backs showing only a trace of gossan on the upper wall, all the under portion is hard capel, and often containing strong traces of copper; then, let me ask, Who will attempt to show how this could first form there but in a soft state? Then analyse it, and it will be found to vary but triflingly from gossan; and that difference is only from a portion of more ponderous substances being brought from below, which give stronger indications of the lode's contents. These I set down as old formations, from which the ore is often passing off in solution. Your readers will understand me, when speaking of East Wheel Russell, that I only allude to the portion of the lode about the engine-shaft; if the lode passes through a slide, caunter, cross-lode, or even an elvan, I have no doubt it would materially alter its features; and it is to these points I should look, if it was my case.

N. ENNOR.

MONEY MAL-APPROPRIATED BY MISPLACED CONFIDENCE.

Sir,—I noticed, in your Journal of last week, the praiseworthy remarks of Mr. Cyrus Legg, on "Wheel Crebor, and its Management," and also respecting secretaries becoming defaulters in respect of the cash, as is the case at Great Hewas, Tamar Consols, Mendip Hills, and other mines, and which, there cannot be the least doubt, is entirely the shareholders' own fault. Why put it in the power of any jobbing secretary to hold thousands of the company's money in their hands? It is allowing cash to lay about in this way that often causes many of them to turn rogues. Men should not mine, nor parties speculate, if they are above looking after their own business.

I say, let all moneys, from either calls or ore bills, be paid direct into a bank to the credit of the mine, never allowing a single shilling to pass through the hands of secretaries, or even shareholders. When the monthly cost-sheet is made up, it should be examined by the committee, when the secretary and the managing captain, or even the whole of the captains, should sign the order for the pursuer or paymaster to draw the amount required; and such order should show, on the face of it, what it is for—whether to pay men, or for materials, or what.

If this plan were adopted, nothing more would be heard of erroneous balance-sheets. Shareholders and honest adventurers would then have fair play—so far, at least, as the money affairs go; at all events, it would be spent in prosecuting the mine. If anything was going wrong, it would soon come out. Nine-tenths of the working agents in mines, under the present system, know nothing of the expenditure, further than by hearsay.

I ask, what objection any mine adventurers would have in adopting this plan if their object were legitimate mining? Any party becoming a shareholder in mines where a plan of this kind is not adopted deserves to lose his money. I really believe that not one-half of the money collected from shareholders is spent in prosecuting the mine. It is the free shareholders, bad laying out of mines, and these defaulters, that consume half the capital, and cause mining to fall below average speculations, without taking into account one-fourth of the mines brought out which never possessed a shadow of a chance of remunerating the shareholders,—only brought out by parties (to sell, and not to work) for mercenary motives.

N. ENNOR.

LIMITED LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.

Sir,—I perceive in last week's Journal that Mr. E. A. Crouch remarks that the introduction of limited liability into mining companies would not be a benefit to them. Permit me to ask that gentleman, through your columns, in what circumstances do the disadvantages of limited liability manifest themselves? I beg to say, that I have been informed Devon Great Consols Mines are not worked on the Cash-Book System at all; and when the excellent management of that company is taken into consideration, I think it proves the Cash-Book System to be anything but what your correspondent appears to think it. An instance of the cash-book "management" might be found in the case of Devon United, in which the other day a shareholder was sued for two debts of the mine, all his calls being paid. Sufficient attention has not been directed to this case, or it would be seen that the Cash-Book System is the only bar to mines experiencing an increase of 20 or 25 per cent. in value, even in the present position of affairs; but when one reads the statement of an individual, that in his opinion a ledger was not necessary in a cash-book mine, it needs no great industry to infer that the Cash-Book System is not the system of respectable men—shareholders in railways, banks, docks, canals, steam navigation, telegraph, &c., companies—should shun English mines; and why mining generally should be supposed to be conducted by sharpers.

ONE WHO FEARS THE CASH-BOOK SYSTEM.

MINING MISNOMERS.

Sir,—As a friend to legitimate mining, I have not failed to notice, in your late Journal, the strictures of various correspondents on the subject of the Buller and Basset United Mines; and I cannot omit to express my surprise at the unwarrantable assumption of the title which the projectors of the above concern have arrogated to themselves on this occasion. If words possess any meaning, surely the above appellation implies that the celebrated and highly productive mines, Wheel Buller and Wheel Basset, have been united or amalgamated into one company, under the above name; and if such junction of those companies has not taken place, you must allow me to declare the publication of any mining adventure under the above assumed title to be not only a misnomer, but an attempt at deception, bordering on fraud, upon the public. I consider this case of mining under "false colours," and which, like piracy at sea, ought not to be allowed to pass with impunity. The projectors would, therefore, do well to revert back to the original name of this mine, which is stated to have been Wheel Speedwell, rather than incur the risk of being sued for the recovery of moneys obtained under false representations, or indicted for conspiracy. We have witnessed so many instances of a similar kind of late, that it would not be wise, on the part of these projectors, to subject themselves to an appearance in any court of justice after such antecedents.

With these examples before us, it will excite less surprise that the mining interest should be so depressed at the present moment, when mining Practitioners themselves descend to such unworthy practices for individual gain, to the discredit of this laudable branch of enterprise, and to the injury of the whole mining community.

I would also call your attention to another evil which mining interests have to submit to, in order to bolster up the losses of unfortunate or reckless traders, who seek to place to the account of mining certain deficiencies or defalcations, which might not be otherwise so easily accounted for. How frequently, of late, do observations of this nature appear in the public papers! In the City Article of the 30th ult., yesterday, we again read that a recent failure to the extent of £500,000, in the East India Trade, was in part ascribed to mining operations, when it is pretty well known that the able and efficient ex-director of the Kennam and West Cork Mining Company was not exposed to greater loss than might be covered by his official remuneration, either in that or the Coosheen adventure; and as to his American mining investment, I have heard that property, estimated at 1500 tons of copper ore, realised 300 per ton, leaving 30,000 per month profit, or 1,000,000 sterling in value, which one would suppose would constitute a sufficiently profitable investment.

With every wish for the success of legitimate mining, I am, &c., SCRUTATOR.

March 21.

ADVERTISING.

MINE MANAGEMENT—ESGAIR MWYN.

Sir,—"Compliments pass when gentlemen meet." I was a short time ago writing a note in an office, which happened to be an anteroom to the board room of the directors of this mine, when, on the entry of a gentleman, to my astonishment I was accosted and roughly questioned as to his management. Not exactly liking to be handled in that fashion, after a smart wordy pass or two, I said I had determined to reserve what I had to say for the meeting just going to take place. I said to myself, this is the mouth-piece of the party that is to oppose me, and in this I was not mistaken, for I very soon afterwards had to sustain such a display of overbearing conduct as I have seldom witnessed, and which, to the extent of £500,000, in the East India Trade, was in part ascribed to mining operations, when it is pretty well known that the able and efficient ex-director of the Kennam and West Cork Mining Company was not exposed to greater loss than might be covered by his official remuneration, either in that or the Coosheen adventure; and as to his American mining investment, I have heard that property, estimated at 1500 tons of copper ore, realised 300 per ton, leaving 30,000 per month profit, or 1,000,000 sterling in value, which one would suppose would constitute a sufficiently profitable investment.

With every wish for the success of legitimate mining, I am, &c., SCRUTATOR.

March 21.

Sir,—"Compliments pass when gentlemen meet." I was a short time ago writing a note in an office, which happened to be an anteroom to the board room of the directors of this mine, when, on the entry of a gentleman, to my astonishment I was accosted and roughly questioned as to his management. Not exactly liking to be handled in that fashion, after a smart wordy pass or two, I said I had determined to reserve what I had to say for the meeting just going to take place. I said to myself, this is the mouth-piece of the party that is to oppose me, and in this I was not mistaken, for I very soon afterwards had to sustain such a display of overbearing conduct as I have seldom witnessed, and which, to the extent of £500,000, in the East India Trade, was in part ascribed to mining operations, when it is pretty well known that the able and efficient ex-director of the Kennam and West Cork Mining Company was not exposed to greater loss than might be covered by his official remuneration, either in that or the Coosheen adventure; and as to his American mining investment, I have heard that property, estimated at 1500 tons of copper ore, realised 300 per ton, leaving 30,000 per month profit, or 1,000,000 sterling in value, which one would suppose would constitute a sufficiently profitable investment.

With every wish for the success of legitimate mining, I am, &c., SCRUTATOR.

March 21.

augmented, with Notes and an Appendix, can be had at the
JOURNAL office, 26, Fleet-street,—Price 5s.

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

NEWSPAPER

[illegible]

view, and the whole proceedings of the concern, they would feel greater confidence

1000 JOURNAL OFFICE, 20, FIFTH STREET, - 2100 001

[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to poor scan quality. It appears to be a continuation of the handwritten notes from the previous page.]

Meetings of Mining Companies.

COPIAPO MINING COMPANY.

A quarterly meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of Mr. Cole, Old Broad-street, yesterday.

Mr. JOHN LAMONT was in the chair.

The advertisement containing the meeting having been read, and the minutes of the last meeting confirmed, the following satisfactory report was submitted:—

The directors have much satisfaction in meeting the shareholders on this occasion, they are in a position to report most favourably on the proceedings, as well as on the prospects of the company's affairs abroad. The directors will, however, request the shareholders to bear in mind that two months have not elapsed since the completion of the year, and that the results of the operations are not yet fully known.

It has been in the hands of their colleagues, Mr. Wheelwright, and, therefore, notwithstanding great reforms have been made, and a highly satisfactory result obtained, further time is required to carry out fully the plans for renting and selling the property, and for developing the several silver mines in which the company is interested.

To diminish the annual expenditure of the company, and to concentrate operations on those points which afforded an early and permanent return, has been the grand object of Mr. Wheelwright's plan; and the directors are able to state that complete success has so far attended the labours of their colleagues.

In order, therefore, that the shareholders may clearly understand the progress made, the directors have first to observe, that it was considered indispensable, as far as possible, to put an end to the establishment charges abroad; this was completely effected at the close of last year, and arrangements have been made whereby the financial agency of the company will be transferred to a gentleman of high standing, responsibility, and integrity, so that in future those charges which have hitherto formed a large item of expenditure will be avoided.

It was also agreed to close the operations in the copper mines, if any parties could be found willing to purchase. This has been partly accomplished; a sale having been made of the Morada Mines and plant for the sum of \$8000.

The only other copper mining operations carried on at Copiapo, no party having been found with a fair offer; but it is gratifying to the directors to be able to report that Mr. Wheelwright anticipates realising, by a different system of working to that hitherto adopted, a profit of about 30000, to 40000, annually from this mine.

With regard to silver mining operations, the directors have much pleasure in being able to state, that the Al Fin Hallada has yielded considerably more in the past six months, than at any former period, and holds out the brightest prospect for the future; inasmuch as the directors are informed that the adjoining mine, called Salto, has cut a very rich vein in the bottom of 170 varas, which is several feet below the deepest part of the Al Fin Hallada, and that there is every reason to believe that, if not still better, results for the future from this mine.

The other silver mines in which this company is interested more largely present a feature of importance as yet, though some of them are productive of mineral; they are being prosecuted with system and regularity, and the appearances are such as to justify a reasonable hope of their becoming profitably productive at no distant date. They are situated in good localities, and, from the discoveries of vast wealth, they are now becoming of frequent occurrence in the district of Tres Puntas, the directors can only express their sanguine opinion that the development of these new mines will also be a source of great benefit to the company.

They have also the satisfaction of stating that Mr. Wheelwright has made an arrangement with Don Nicholas Narango, to take charge of them, and that this gentleman is considered to be the first miner in the province of Copiapo, and an accomplished assayer. Mr. Wheelwright, in one of his recent letters, mentions that six or seven mines were giving a large amount of silver; and his opinion is, that Tres Puntas (in which the company's mines are situated) is destined to yield an immense amount of gold, equally with silver and copper.

Seeing that the results of the working of the silver mines, when in bonanza, is proportionally large, Mr. Wheelwright considered that the holding of a small number of shares in several mines in a district likely to be attended with earlier and more success than if the same interest was limited to a few chances; and he has, therefore, determined to lessen the number of the company's shares in some where a risk is heavy, and so divide the interest better than at present, provided he can find good associates. By a recent letter, the directors find that an advantageous exchange has been made of 2 varas in Carmen Alto for 4 varas in Repubblicano, 2 varas in Ana for 1 varas in Clorinda; and subsequent advice state the Repubblicano to be in bonanza, and has given 3000000 of silver. The shareholders will, no doubt, be glad to hear of this, and with a wide-spread interest in the silver mines of Tres Puntas, an early discovery may be anticipated.

With regard to the estates, since the last meeting Mr. Wheelwright has succeeded in obtaining a desirable tenant for the Mal Paso property, at a rental of \$2000 per annum, for five years. Many offers have also been made to rent the estate of Potrero Seco, but as there has been no conclusive arrangement come to at present, Mr. Wheelwright has, however, been actively engaged in preparing measures for obtaining, eventually, a large sum from this extensive and valuable property. The railway has been brought up to the mine, and the station has been completed, and the directors are now in a position to have already been raised. Arrangements are also being made to the directors for the public buildings; at the same time a survey has been made of the land in the immediate vicinity of the railway, which is being reduced to drawings, and the whole has been closed in by a fencing. The intention is to dispose of the enclosed land in lots, for building, and in the course of a short time a considerable income may be expected; whilst, in other respects, the property generally will be greatly improved. The directors, therefore, have every reason to confirm their report, that an income of 5 per cent. on the capital raised will be derived from the mining, or selling, at a census the estate, and working the Copiapo Mine.

In reference to the financial state of the company, the directors have much pleasure in reporting that the three shipments of silver and copper ores, which they were obliged to estimate in the annual accounts presented at the annual meeting in August, at 23,0000, have realised (netted), 23,3000, 4s. 10d., being an excess of 3000, 4s. 10d. Mr. Wheelwright has also found himself able to carry on operations without having recourse to draw upon the board, by arrangements made for disposing of the copper ore on the spot; and, at the same time, has shipped the whole of the silver ore produced from the Al Fin Hallada Mine to this country up to the close of last year, which, in the six months has been valued at 12,5000. The result, as far as the directors are now to report, of the operations from July 1 to Dec. 31 has been as follows:—

Excess of estimate on last account £ 306 4 10
Six months produce from Al Fin Hallada Mine 12,500 0 0 = £12,806 4 10
Wages of miners paid in England, interest on loan, &c. 1,734 6 10

Leaving as profit on six months' operations £11,071 8 0

The produce of Al Fin Hallada Mine, during the past six months, ending Dec. 31st, has been as follows:—

	Quintals.	lbs.	Containing mts. of sil.
July	256	2	710
August	313	58	530
September	496	45	1372
October	370	40	1410
November	420	19	1029
December	505	58	1016

From the foregoing remarks, the shareholders will see that their property has, almost since the direction of it has been in the hands of Mr. Wheelwright, a most improving aspect. The result is that the board is in a position to-day to declare a dividend out of the proceeds of the half-year ending the 31st December last of 11 per cent. which they intend paying in the month of May, or earlier depending on the arrival of the *Lucy N. Hall*, which vessel sailed on the 24 Jan. from Caldera.

Regarding the future, the directors anticipate that the revenue from the estates, and the profit to be derived from the Copiapo Mine, will be more than sufficient to pay the expenses of the company, in which case the whole of the produce of the Al Fin Hallada Mine will be remitted to this country, and available for dividends. Should such be the result, the directors hope at the annual meeting in September to announce as a dividend as on this occasion.

The shareholders have to look to the prospects of the other silver mines for still more favourable results, and the directors trust that ere long they may have it in their power to announce a discovery of some importance, so that the most sanguine expectations of the shareholders may be realised. In corroboration of which, they have this day been favoured with a Valparaiso newspaper, which is in the room, and of which the following is an extract:—

"*Copio, Jan. 20.*—The Republicano, in Tres Puntas, continues improving in an extraordinary manner. By the arrival of the body of silver (in Spanish, 'alcanal') it is not so much as we should not hesitate to place it at once in the rank of a mine of the first order."

The directors have, in conclusion, to express their sense of the valuable assistance rendered to the company by their colleagues, Mr. Wheelwright, to whose able and prompt measures the present favourable aspect of the company's affairs is mainly to be attributed.

The CHAIRMAN having moved the adoption of the report, Mr. HOLLAND, in seconding the motion, said that without indulging in any exaggerated views as to the mine, he could not refrain from expressing a strong feeling of the brightness of the prospects. It was always advisable to be cautious in dealing with the prospective mines, but they could well afford to make very large deductions from the expectation that they were fairly entitled to entertain, and still find themselves in possession of a large and increasing income, inasmuch as they had a very valuable freehold estate, which would ere long become very productive, and would, he had no doubt, fully realise an income of 5 per cent. on the company's capital when Mr. Wheelwright's plans were carried out. The copper mines, which hitherto had only moved a drain on the company's resources, were now put on a footing of yielding a revenue, while the expenditure had been reduced to a small figure. In reference to the paragraph in the Valparaiso paper on the table (which announced the very important discovery at the Republicano Mine), those gentlemen present acquainted with Chilli would be able to state the value of such a discovery, and shareholders would recollect that the mine of Republicano was one of the new mines in which Mr. Wheelwright had recently taken four shares, or one-sixth part interest; and should it be only about one-eighth, they might indeed congratulate themselves on such an event. He considered it an act of gratitude due to Mr. Wheelwright to express their thanks for his very great zeal and energy on behalf of the company.

The CHAIRMAN fully concurred with Mr. Holland, and such an expression of feeling which was cordially responded to by Mr. Wheelwright.

Mr. ELLIS observed that the report went so very fully into particulars, that it was necessary to add any remarks upon the subject. Although mining affairs were regarded in some sense as a lottery, yet they knew that they had in these mines a home for property, and they might fairly indulge in sanguine expectations for the future.

Mr. ELLIS (of Liverpool) said that he was, in the first place, very glad to find by the report that a portion of the Carmen Alto estate was being surveyed and enclosed; and he thought it extremely desirable that they should have a general survey; they had a very large property, and it was admitted to be a very valuable property, and he thought they should have every portion of it laid down, even if it cost them 3000, or 4000, a sum which he was sure would not be felt. This was the more important, as the real position of the company would be perfectly acquainted with. He should, further, like to have a rough sketch of the Tres Puntas property, and of all their mines, and even of those to which they did not hold shares; because, it must be apparent, an adjacent mine was very rich they must know, from certain inferences, where it was desirable to proceed with their workings.

The CHAIRMAN agreed with Mr. Tinsley, that it was very desirable they should have a complete survey of their property, but he thought they had better wait until Mr. Wheelwright had completed his survey, and effected all his arrangements.

Mr. Tinsley said he merely threw out the suggestion. In conclusion, he now wished to address himself to a matter more of a personal character. He thought the time had now arrived when they should not see gentlemen to devote their time and energy gratuitously; and that the shareholders ought, therefore, to think of awarding those gentlemen, to whose long and valuable services they are so much indebted, some remuneration. This was a matter specially provided for by the Deed of Settlement; there was an amount mentioned (8000) to be applied to that purpose. It was a matter which he proposed to his brother-shareholders with the utmost confidence, because he was satisfied he should receive their unanimous support. He would, therefore, move that the directors be requested to take such an amount of the remuneration provided for by the Deed of Settlement, to be paid to the gentlemen who had been so long and so valuable to the company, and to be paid to Mr. Wheelwright, who had no doubt, been a position to award something more tangible to Mr. Wheelwright than a vote of thanks; although, he had no doubt, that would be highly gratifying to him. The resolution was carried with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the meeting for the very kind manner in which they had expressed themselves with regard to the services of himself and brother directors. He attributed the want of success which had hitherto attended their efforts, in a great measure, to the great distance of the property from this country, and he felt that they were very greatly indebted to Mr. Wheelwright, who had not only the confidence of the directors, but must, he was sure, have the confidence of the proprietors at large. He (the chairman) had every reason to believe that the affairs of the company would go on improving, although there was nothing more uncertain in this uncertain life than the uncertainty of mining. He hoped they would now go on paying dividends year by year.—The meeting then terminated.

FORT BOWEN MINING COMPANY.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders was held at the offices of the company, No. 11, New Broad-street, on Thursday, for the purpose of increasing the capital of the company by the creation of 14,900 additional shares, and to empower the directors to borrow, and take up, any sum not exceeding 50000, by way of debenture.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting, Mr. TATE said, he had an important communication to make to the proprietors. Dr. Collyer was the inventor of a gold-crushing machine, and that gentleman had had a great deal of experience in Mexico, California, and other parts of the world—indeed, he believed there was no man in England who had a better knowledge of gold stratification than Dr. Collyer; and he (Mr. Tate) could not give a greater proof of confidence in the undertaking than the fact of Dr. Collyer agreeing to pay his own expenses to the mine, take a machine from New York, work it at his own cost, and not receive remuneration in any shape until the mines were productive, and even then receive his pay in arrears. Dr. Collyer would join this undertaking, notwithstanding the fact that he had in his pocket an offer of an engagement of 6000 per annum, which, with contingencies, would be worth 10000 a year. The machinery already sent out will crush 40 tons of ore per day, which, according to the assay, will yield, at the lowest calculation, 4000, to the ton, or 192,000, per annum; and if they deducted 92,000, for working expenses and delay, it would leave 100,000, a year to come into the pockets of the shareholders; and he firmly believed every farthing he had stated would be realised. He had been in communication with Mr. Champion, who had visited the mines, and that gentleman considered they were four times as rich as the St. John del Rey Mines, and much easier in working.

Mr. JACKSON wished to know whether General Norris had much faith in the mines? and if so, why he could not raise the additional capital required in New York?

Mr. TATE replied, that General Norris had the greatest confidence in the success of the adventure, but he had never been requested to raise capital. The expected cargo of ore by the vessel that had taken out the machinery, and which it was fully expected would average 200, per ton.

Capt. CHARLTON said, the directors had agreed to subscribe for one-third of the unissued shares, and, therefore, only remained for the shareholders to say whether they would support them, otherwise the company must be wound-up. He would suggest that power should be given to the directors to issue the shares at 2s. 6d. each to the present holders; and in the event of being offered to the public, at 5s. each, the directors should have the power to issue the shares at 5s. each, and to permit the directors to issue the 14,900 shares on hand upon such terms as they may think fit, and to raise a sum not exceeding 50000, upon debentures. Several of the shareholders in attendance put down their names for a portion of the shares and debentures.

ESGAIR MWYN MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders in this company was held at the offices, Leadenhall-street, on Thursday.

Mr. GEORGE HELMORE was in the chair.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, and the following report of the directors, and accounts:—

At a special general meeting, held for that purpose on the 5th day December last, it was resolved to re-issue 1795 shares which had previously been forfeited to the company; these shares have been wholly subscribed for by the existing shareholders. It was also resolved that the principal mining agents of the company, Captain M. Francis, and Capt. T. Williams, and his son Edward Williams, should be dismissed the service of the company, and they have been dismissed accordingly. As regards Capt. T. Williams and his son, their conduct since their dismissal has, in the opinion of your directors, fully justified the propriety of that step, as they not only refused to give up possession of the property of the company except upon payment of charges which your directors have the duty to insist upon, but refused to permit Capt. Vial, whom your directors appointed as chief mining captain, to take possession of the mine.

Your directors have placed the matter in the hands of their solicitors at Aberystwyth, and hope they will very shortly be in a position to report the adjustment of these differences; should, however, they be disappointed in their expectations, they are prepared to take the most vigorous measures for the protection of your property.

Your directors have appointed Capt. Samuel Vial, late of Court Grange Mine, upon the recommendation of Capt. Eddy, of the Lisburne Mine, and other competent parties; and Capt. Josiah Hall, recommended by Capt. S. Secombe, of the South Pines Mine, to take the place of Capt. Vial. Your directors have to acknowledge the kindness of Capt. Eddy and Capt. Secombe in assisting them in the selection of efficient agents, and trust the shareholders will evince their appreciation of it by passing a special vote of thanks to them.

Your directors have every confidence that, under their newly-appointed agents, the mining operations will be conducted with skill and vigour, and believe the most beneficial results will be attained.

Your directors herewith submit to you a full statement of the accounts of the company, since its formation, which will enable the shareholders to ascertain the precise financial position of the company. In the year 1853-4, the total amount of ore raised was 40 tons, yielding 5337, 10s. 8d.; the cost-sheets and merchants' bills amounted to 12981, 6s. 3d. In the year 1854 the amount of ore produced was 39 tons, yielding 4987, 15s.; the cost-sheets and merchants' bills for the same period amounting to 20385, 0s. 11d. In the year 1855 the ore raised was 161 1/2 tons, producing 21137, 9s. 11d.; the cost-sheets and merchants' bills being 36847, 2s. 11d.; and of this quantity of 161 1/2 tons, 121 tons, realising 15707, 2s. 9d., have been raised during the last six months of the past year.

During the last four months the average yield of ore has been nearly 30 tons per month, equal to an annual produce of 360 tons, value 43200; your directors have, therefore, the utmost confidence that, under the new management at the mine, this quantity will be increased, while the cost sheets are susceptible of being diminished; and that, ere long, Esgrair Mwyn will again resume its place among the other dividend-paying mines.

Your directors have further to report, that they have placed the expenditure of the London offices upon the most economical footing, and are justified in estimating it will not exceed 3500, for the next year, including the 1500, voted as a remuneration to your directors. Your directors have to report, that since the last general meeting, their respected chairman, Mr. E. J. Herapath, has resigned his seat at their board; this circumstance has caused them much regret, as nothing could exceed the zeal and devotion of Mr. Herapath in promoting the best interests of the company.

Your directors have to acknowledge with gratitude the assistance they have derived from the counsel of Mr. Holyoake, Mr. Weston, and Mr. Morgan, whom they consulted on the retirement of Mr. Herapath. Mr. Helmore has since that period been voted to the chair, and Mr. Morgan, at the urgent request of the board, has been induced to occupy the seat vacated by Mr. Herapath. This appointment is fully confirmed by the shareholders. Mr. H. F. Home and Mr. R. Hall, are the two directors who retire by rotation at this meeting, and, being eligible, now offer themselves for re-election. There is appended to this report, according to requirements of the Deed of Settlement, the names of all shareholders who are qualified for election as directors. It will form a portion of the business of the meeting to appoint an auditor for the ensuing year, and your directors feel they cannot better serve the company than by recommending the re-appointment of Mr. S. L. Price, who has so satisfactorily and ably performed the duties attached to that office.

In conclusion, your directors trust the measures that have been adopted will meet the approval of the shareholders; their endeavours have been to carry out the views of the shareholders, and to place the affairs of the company on a firm and satisfactory basis.

CH.—Balance last account £ 41 19 6
Cash received for shares 339 15 0
Interest, transfer-fees, &c. 4 10 0
Advances from directors 300 0 0
Ore sold, 82 tons 16 cwt. (realised) 1091 19 3
Ore sold, 61 tons 12 cwt. (not realised) — — — = £3440 19 2

Dr.—Mine cost, June to November £1600 8 8
Merchants' bills, May to September 308 10 5
Travelling expenses, secretary's salary, and office 122 6 0
Expenses (auditor and accounts) 32 19 8
Capt. Francis 35 0 0
V. Francis, for royalties 92 16 2
Sundry other charges, to 30th December 125 19 5 = £2379 0 6

Leaving balance in favour of mine £ 41 19 2

The CHAIRMAN said that he now devoted on him to move the adoption of the report and accounts, but before he did so, he should wish to make a few observations. With regard to the dismissal of the engineer and agents of the mine, that was, therefore, the result of a resolution passed at a meeting on the 25th Dec. last, and it was, therefore, the act of the shareholders, and not merely of the directors, although they have felt fully justified in the step taken, from their conduct since notice was given to them. Thomas Williams had actually retained possession of their stock of ore and premises at Aberystwyth, refusing to give them up, except on payment of the claim set up by him, which they could not allow. The gross amount was 1800, or 1900, whereas, at that time, he was only entitled to one month's notice, which would be under 200, and he should have considered it very reprehensible conduct of Mr. Williams, even if the company had been indebted to him, to refuse to give up possession to the new agents of the company. Mr. Williams was in possession of the mine, plant, and machinery, and if they examined the items charged, it would be seen that some were not only for work done for the Cardiganhire Mining Company, which was the former owner of the mine, and for Mr. Francis, before he sold the lease to that company, but as far back as 1847, although Mr. Francis was not the mortgagee until 1850. They had, therefore, appointed Mr. Fossett and Mr. Thompson, of Aberystwyth, as arbitrators. The ill-feeling in the minds of the men had been excited by those who had a great interest in keeping up the feud between them and the company, by stating that it was the intention of the new agent to remove the Welshmen from their places, and to employ Cornish miners in their stead; but they had written to the men, informing them that nothing was further from their intention. A portion of the men committed a gross outrage on Capt. Vial: Those men had since been taken before the magistrate, and he did not doubt they would be properly dealt with. He would now beg to move the adoption of the report and accounts.—Mr. HERAPATH, sen., seconded the motion.

Mr. Wm. MORGAN observed, that the accounts were only made up to the 30th Dec., and there were certain liabilities which had since that time been discharged. Their present liabilities amounted to 12937, including 10000, for the purchase of Esgrair Dhu Mine, and their assets to 16667. He would also say that there would be no diminution in the return of ore. He withdrew from the direction, as there was an opinion amongst some of the shareholders that his withdrawal would conduce to the harmonious working of the company, and he, therefore, had the greatest pleasure in doing so, although he had proxies with him which would be simply sufficient to secure his election. He considered the mine was now in a favourable condition, and that they might place the utmost confidence in Capt. Paul. The London management was comparatively nothing, when compared with efficient management at the mine; but they must have good men at the mines. He would be succeeded by those in whom he had the utmost confidence, and he would add, that there appeared to be a large amount of unanimity amongst the shareholders; and he was sure they would all agree with him, when he stated that his successors would have 19-20ths of the shareholders to support them in their operations for the interest of the company, and that he retired from the direction for the sole purpose of promoting that unanimity.

The adoption of the report was then carried unanimously; and, after some little discussion of the most friendly nature, it was resolved that Messrs. Bell, Edward Morgan, and Weston, should be elected directors, in the room of those retiring, and Mr. S. L. Price, as auditor. Messrs. Bell and Edward Morgan acknowledged the compliment, and votes of thanks were passed to Mr. W. Morgan, for his services as a director of the company, and to Mr. E. J. Herapath, as their late chairman, which were duly acknowledged by those gentlemen.

A special vote of thanks was then proposed by the chairman to Mr. Eddy and Capt. Secombe, for their gratuitous services on behalf of the company, with the request that the same might be communicated to them, which was accorded by Mr. E. J. Herapath, sen., and carried unanimously. Thanks were then voted to the chairman, who having acknowledged the same, declared the meeting dissolved.

CAEGWIAN MINING COMPANY.

The quarterly general meeting of shareholders was held at 19, Royal Exchange, yesterday.

Mr. SAMUEL WEATHERLEY was in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, and confirmed; the balance-sheet, showing a cash balance against the mine of 281, 6s. 11d., against which 231, was due for calls, having been examined, was passed; and Mr. Low's report of the 20th inst., containing the fifth series of assays (particulars of which will be found in another column) was read.—The following report of the secretary was then read:—

In handing you Mr. Low's reports, received during the past three months, I am sorry they do not record a full estimate of the value of the theory promulgated by that gentleman, in his method of reducing and amalgamating the gold ores of our mines after calcination; but as this inability accrues solely from the stoppage of the building operations during the excessively inclement weather of January and February, and which has been a bar to all progress towards the completion of the calcining furnace, I can only draw your attention to the satisfactory result of the operations which have been carried on by assay. Previous to the date of your last meeting, Mr. Low had forwarded particulars of the first series of assay made from a parcel (5 tons) of quartz, and which gave upwards of 3 ozs. of gold to the ton. This process being, as you are aware, a chemical one, it can only be made upon, and give the result from, a very minute portion of the quartz, assumed, however, to be a fair specimen or sample of the whole.

The course adopted is to crush, by means of the crushing rolls, the 5 tons of quartz into pieces sufficiently small to pass through a half-inch riddle; the sample and re-sample from such parcel until it is supposed a fair and average specimen of the whole is secured. This sampled portion is then pounded up, and smaller samples taken therefrom, and upon which, after calcination (I believe) in a small furnace, the assays are made.

This process has been repeated upon various piles of ore from different parts of the mine, until now, I understand, 25 tons of quartz are crushed up, and the bulk remains properly numbered, ready for calcination as soon as the calcining furnace is completed. From the 25 tons of quartz, 30 assays have already been made—that is to say, each 5 tons has been sampled, and six assays made therefrom, yielding as follows:—No. 1, average of six assays, 3 ozs. 1 dw. 19 grs.; No. 2, ditto, 2 ozs. 16 dwts. 30 grs.; No. 3, ditto, 4 ozs. 10 dwts. 5 grs.; No. 4, ditto, 1 oz. 18 dwts. 14 grs.; No. 5, ditto, 3 ozs. 4 dwts. 21 grs.; No. 6, ditto, or equivalent in the whole to 3 ozs. 2 dwts. 11 grs. of fine gold to the ton of quartz.

Of the satisfactory result of these chemical trials, so far as they go, no doubt can exist; but the shareholders will naturally be anxious to see it proved, on a practical and commercial scale of working, that the bulk of the 30 tons will yield an approximate return of gold to the assays, or something near it (say only 2 ozs. to the ton); and should such fortunately prove to be the case, the speculation of the theory will be at an end, and the value of the property fully proved.

It is a considerable source of gratification to find that Mr. Low is still very sanguine of the most satisfactory results, and that, although so much retarded by the inclement season, the calcining furnace will be ready to be annealed within a month from this date; it will, however, be necessary to extend Mr. Low's engagement over an additional two months, to compensate for the loss of time and progress during the winter.

There is a balance-sheet of expenditure to the present date; and it will be necessary that a small additional fund should be provided to carry the speculation through. There are two modes of creating this additional fund—either the 960 shares held in reserve can be appropriated, or a call made of 6d. per share upon the present 5040 shares. In this latter case, the reserve shares will remain in charge of the trustees for appropriation, if thought advisable, hereafter, and which, provided the speculation turns out favourably, will compensate by way of bonus for the perseverance with which the proprietors of this company have proceeded towards elucidating the question of the value of the gold ores of North Wales.

It was resolved that the reports and balance-sheet be adopted, and entered in the cost-book.

Mr. GUILLEMAUD enquired when Mr. Low's present engagement would cease?

The SECRETARY: On the 30th of April.

Mr. GUILLEMAUD then moved, and it was resolved, that such engagement be extended until the 30th of June, on the same terms; and that Mr. Low be urged to get the 30 tons of quartz calcined and amalgamated as soon as possible.

A call of 6d. per 5040th share was made.

THE TERGOVE MINING COMPANY.—We alluded briefly last week to the prospectus issued for the formation of this company, and to which we now revert, for the purpose of noticing some very interesting facts which are disclosed in that document. The course frequently pursued by the continental Governments is, to work large mining properties on their own account, as also to undertake the construction of railways; but it would appear that the Emperor of Austria is impressed with the idea that such works would be carried on more satisfactorily, and with greater interest to the State, by allowing foreign capital to be introduced into his country. A short time since the Austrian Government sold its railways to a French company, and now, for the first time, the Government have sold a mine to English adventurers, so that at the very time the English and French are allied in war, they will be allies in two great commercial enterprises, in a country whose friendly feeling towards them was, for a lengthened period, doubtful. The mines we are noticing are situated at Tergove, in Croatia, underlying a tract of about 25 English miles, chiefly of forest land, bordering on the navigable River Naia. The Austrian Government has already expended upwards of 30,000, upon the necessary works and preparations for mining on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel; and an arrangement has been made with the Government of the royalty payable to the Government on a most extensive scale, and 26 different pits have been opened, which disclose the existence of copper, iron, and lead ore, but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended operations, which have never since been resumed. A contract has been made for a grant of the Tergove mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers, and a promise has been obtained of the concession by the Government of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present

Mining Correspondence.

BRITISH MINES.

ALFRED CONSOLS.—Field's engine-shaft is now sunk 3 fms. 3 ft. under the 130 fm. level; the lode in this shaft is much the same as last reported, worth for copper ore 40¢ per fm. for the whole length of the shaft. In driving the 130 fm. level, east from this shaft, the lode is now worth for copper ore 110¢ per fm. No. 1 winze, sinking under the 120 fm. level, is worth for copper ore 70¢ per fm. We calculate there is another part of the lode still standing north of said winze, which is worth for copper ore 30¢ per fm. in the 130 fm. level, which is not more than 9 ft. west of the winze. The 120 fm. level, driving east of Field's engine-shaft, is still poor. No alteration in any other part of this mine since the last report.—T. TAYLOR: March 19.

ALTARNUN CONSOLS.—The lode in the winze is still producing good work for tin. The lode in the stope in the back of the 20, west of the shaft, is also producing good saving work. The lode in the shaft has made a splice, and the top of it is gone out, but it is forming itself again, and also getting larger.—R. RAYMOND: March 20.

ARUNDELL COPPER.—In Victoria engine-shaft, sinking under the 36 fm. level, the ground continues favourable for sinking. In the 36 fm. level cross-cut, driving north to the great lode, the ground has much the same appearance as reported last week. In the 36 fm. level, driving east on the new lode, we have taken down the south part, which is of much the same character as reported last week.—WILLIAM THOMAS: March 21.

BALLESWIDEN UNITED.—We have put every man to work on flat lode under the 45 fm. level, and I am glad to report we have discovered a good branch of tin going down 8 fms. east of flat lode shaft; we are now sinking the shaft, in order to stop down the ground going east to this tin going down in the bottom. In the course of next week we shall be in a good position to raise tin from flat lode; we have one pair of men working in close to the east end, and we shall now sink and stope with all possible speed. At Daw's shaft, last month, two men broke under levels, in water, 127. worth of tin: at the same time, if this was drained, for about 60¢ cost, I think we could put from 20 to 30 men on tribute.—H. MITCHELL: March 17.

BEDFORD CONSOLS.—We have commenced cross-cutting the lode in the adit level, but enough has not been done as yet to report on its size or appearance.—H. HORSWILL: J. MITCHELL: March 22.

BEDFORD UNITED.—The ground in the engine-shaft, and in the 130 fm. level, driving north, is without alteration. The lode in the 115 has not been taken down; in this level west the lode is becoming larger, and looking more promising, having in the past week yielded a little saving work. The lode in the 105, and stope, are much the same as last reported. There is nothing new to notice in the 95 and 80 fm. levels.—J. PHILLIPS: March 21.

BOTTLE HILL.—As regards the cross-cut in the 123, the ground still continues as last reported. The lode in the 112 is 12 ft. wide, and the part we are now carrying is producing good work for tin, the value being 16¢ per fathom. In driving south, in the 100, we have met, during the past week, with several small branches, dipping towards the lode, and spotted with tin and copper ore, showing every indication of our being near the main lode. The winze sinking in the bottom of this level has been communicated to the 112, and the stope in the back are each set to six men, and yielding most favourably, the value being 25¢ per fathom. All the other stope in the mine are producing as usual. We sampled, on Friday last, 6 tons of tin.—WILLIAM ROBINS: March 21.

BRONFLOYD.—The ore is rather stronger in the south side on the western level, while the ground is also more favourable for driving the eastern level, with more ore in the eastern side of it. No other change of importance.—J. JONES: March 19.

BRYN-Y-PEDWEN.—Te deep adit level on the south lode has been extended west on the course of the lode 1 fathom 2 feet; this driving has been in a lode about 3 ft. wide, spotted with lead ore, but not to value. The 20 fathom, driving west of the winze, on the south lode, has been driven, west of the lode, in this level continues without any material alteration, being about 3 feet wide, showing occasionally some good spots of ore, with a promising appearance. The winze sinking under the 20, on the south lode, has been sunk 1 fm. 1 ft.; the lode in the present bottom is larger, but not quite so productive as when last reported; the lode is about 4 feet wide, and will yield 20 cwt. of ore per fathom. There is still a large stream of water coming from the bottom, which is a good indication, although troublesome for sinking. We are pushing down this winze as fast as possible, by nine men.—March 19.

BRYNTAIL.—The lode in the 10 fm. level, driving east of the new shaft, is just the same in quality as when reported on last week, but the lode has increased in size, and the stratum is more congenial for ore. I cannot speak of any improvement in any other part of the mine during the past week. The cross-cut in the 10 fm. level further east, but up to this time it has not been found. We shall commence carrying the ore to Newtown on Thursday next.—J. ROACH: March 21.

BUTTERDON.—The engine-shaft is sunk 7 fms. 3 ft. below the 30 fm. level. We have not much alteration to notice since last report, only that the horse of Kilias dividing the lode is now interrupted by branches of can, with spots of lead.—WILLIAM BRYANT: March 21.

CAE-GYNNON.—The men have finished cutting the plat in the 10 fm. level, and completed a footway to the 20 fm. level this day. I have set the 20 fm. level to drive east by four men, at 5¢, 10¢, per fathom; also the 20 west to six men, at 5¢, 10¢, per fathom; and these levels will be started on Monday, the 19th. The water is out from the western stope, and ten men are now working there; the lode is looking well. I hope to get men enough to fill up the bargains shortly.—E. STEPHAN: March 17.

CALSTOCK UNITED.—The pump-shaft is down to the 60, and the lode is without alteration since last reported on. The shaftmen are now employed in cutting a plat at the bottom, and making preparations to ease and divide the shaft from the 50, that the machine kilble may go to the 60.—W. COOK: March 17.

CAMDWR-MAWR.—A great improvement has taken place in the appearance of the cross-cut driving south in the 10 fm. level. I have just had some good specimens of lead brought into the office; about next Wednesday or Thursday I shall be better able to convey to you an opinion of what it is likely to turn out. The cross-cut in the 5 fathom level continues promising; the ground is very hard, and there are some rich strings of lead; the men working it think there is a good deposit of lead near at hand, but a few days more will enlighten us upon the subject. We are much in want of timber for the completion of the drawing machine, which, weather permitting, will be finished in about a month. The masons came on Tuesday to build the pit for the small wheel for round biddle, and what is necessary for the drawing machine. We have been dressing lead upon a small scale all the week, but with only one man and two boys.—THOMAS TUMOR: March 17.

CAROLINE WHEEL PROSPER (BUCKFASTLEIGH).—Since last report, we have commenced and are now driving a deep level from the stream on the course of the lode; and, although not quite out of the old mine workings, we have had in the bottom of the level some good stones of tin. We are now in from the mouth of the level about 9 fms.; this level, in driving 400 fms. west under the hill, will be at that point 90 fms. from surface, and when driven 50 fms. from the present end we shall have 35 fathoms of backs. In the shallow adit level the lode is rather split up at present into branches; the branches on the footwall are about 5 in. wide, producing work fit for the stamps; in No. 1 stope, in the back of this level, the lode is about 2 ft. wide, producing good work for the stamps; No. 2 stope is stopped for the present. Our stamps and drawing-machine both work exceedingly well; and we are now busily engaged dressing the stuff already stamped out.—W. WILLIAMS: March 22.

CARVANNAL.—The lode at the engine-shaft, sinking under the 106 fm. level, continues 2 feet wide, composed of mangle, iron, and stones of ore. Other tinwork bargains are without alteration. The tribute pitches are looking tolerably well. About 35 tons of ore are at surface.—W. ROBERTS: March 17.

CAYLAN.—South Eagle Rock Lode: There is nothing new to report on in Barkell's level.—Engle Rock Lode, deep adit level west: The stope is producing about 5 cwt. of lead ore per fm.—Powell's Level east: No. 1 stope is producing about 12 cwt. per fathom, and No. 2 about 15 cwt. per fm. Having holed the rise above No. 3 to a sink in the old workings, we have set the stope sooner than I anticipated. This stope is producing about 8 cwt. of ore per fathom. We have about 22 tons of ore ready for shipment, but have not yet been able to engage a vessel to take it to Holywell.—JAMES BARKELL: March 20.

CEFN BRWYN.—The lode in the deep adit level east is about 2 feet wide, composed of quartz, blende, and clay-slate, with strings of lead ore, but not to value; the men at this point are pushing on with all possible speed, although the ground is rather hard and troublesome for driving. Nothing has been done in the 38 fathom level, west of Taylor's shaft, since my last report, in consequence of the water being in, but it is now nearly forked again, and the men will commence work at this point to-morrow morning, when we shall be able to push it on with all speed. The lode in the stope over the 38 fathom level, west of Taylor's shaft, is 5 feet high, producing 1 ton 5 cwt. of ore per fathom; the stope over this level, 20 fathoms west of shaft, is now worked out, being up through to the 24 fathom level; the lode in the stope over the 38 fathom level, 10 fms. west of shaft, is 6 ft. wide, yielding about 1 ton 10 cwt. of ore per fathom. The lode in the stope over the 24 fm. level, 40 fathoms west of Taylor's shaft, is 7 feet wide, producing about 1 ton of ore per fathom; the stope over this level, 30 fathoms west of shaft, will produce about 15 cwt. of ore per fathom; the stope over this level, 25 fms. west of shaft, will yield about 18 cwt. of ore per fathom. The lode in the winze and stope in the bottom of the 12 fathom level, 15 fms. east of Taylor's shaft, is 4 feet wide, producing 1 ton 12 cwt. of ore per fathom. We should now propose the driving of the cross-cut south in the 30 fathom level from Taylor's shaft, to intersect the lode, in order to be laying open some more ore ground in that part of the mine.—March 20.

CUBERT UNITED.—Trebellan engine shaft is down 9 fathoms 4 feet 6 in. below the 66 fathom level, and in about 10 days from this time the lift, including floor, will be completed for a 66 fathom level; the lode in the last 3 fms. has not been very rich, but of a very cheering character indeed; it is about 14 ft. wide, composed of quartz, fluor-spar, carbonate of iron, mangle, and lead, worth of the latter from 3 to 4 cwt. per fathom; at the present bottom it is improved, and worth about 6 cwt. of lead per fathom. The fluor-spar to which I referred in my last report is, I am glad to observe, increasing, and in my opinion very likely to effect an important change in the lode; in fact, a change has already taken place, and that you may be better satisfied on the subject, I have forwarded this day, addressed to your office in London, a box of specimens from the bottom of Trebellan shaft, not only to show the quality for lead, but also the beautiful nature of the lode, with the fluor-spar intermixed. The 56 fathom level is driven 17½ fathoms north of the shaft; the lode in the last 3 fathoms has produced about 4 cwt. of lead per fathom; in the present bottom the lode is 16 ft. wide, and the result of lead per fathom will soon be seen; the stope in the back of this level is worth about 8 cwt. of lead per fathom. The pump winze is down 8 fms. 4 ft. below the 66 fm. level, the lode in the south end of it is worth at the rate of 7 cwt. per fathom. Fluor-spar is making its appearance here also. The shoot of ore we have been sinking here is, as you are aware, dipping fast southward with the elvan course, so much so, that the winze will shortly get to the north of it, and may from this cause have to be reported as poor; we shall, however, have but a very short distance to reach the 8 ft. of ore again by driving south after we get down to the 66 fathom level, which I expect will be towards the end of next month. The stope in the back of the 66 fathom level, north of the pump winze, are worth from 4 to 5 cwt. of lead per fathom. The 46 fathom level ends, north and south of shaft, being unproductive ore for the present suspended. At Trebellan, the 63 fathom level is driven near 10 fathoms west of the engine-shaft; the lode in the greater part of the distance is about 18 in. wide, composed of quartz, carbonate of iron, mangle, and good stones of lead in places; if the ground should continue so favourable as at present, which I have no doubt of, it will require no long time to reach the elvan course, which is now our chief object in this part of the mine. The 55 fathom level is extended about 47½ fathoms west of shaft; in the last 3 fathoms the lode has been poor. We have been some time, and are still, almost daily expecting to meet with the shoot of ore some down from the 45 fathom level, which according to its dip there, we are sufficiently advanced to reach it; it may, however, have a little altered its inclination from one level to the other, which is nothing unusual; very shortly this will be proved. The stope in the

back of this level are worth 8 cwt. of lead per fm.; and the stope in the back of the same level, east of shaft, are worth 4 cwt. per fm. In conclusion, I would remark that the Trebellan part, excepting the stope, is not at present looking so cheering as could be desired, but the 55 and 55 ends are approaching or going towards the elvan course, and may, in a long time, present a very different appearance. Generally speaking, I try to avoid raising false hopes and expectations in the adventurers in concerns I am connected with; but the change for the better which is taking place in Trebellan lode as we get down, is such that I think there is every prospect that this lode will, as we develop it, prove more and more productive, and that the necessary outlay to do so is likely to be handsomely rewarded. The specimens I have before referred to, speak for themselves, most of which were raised from the bottom of the shaft during my inspection, and until recently no such flattening specimens could be found anywhere in the lode.—S. RICHARDS: March 17.

CLOWANCE WOOD.—The adit level, driving west of Slater's shaft, on Slater's, the lode is 1 ft. wide, producing spots of ore, not to value.—E. CRAWFORD: March 17.

CROSSGILL HEAD CONSOLS.—The weather, up to this time, has been so rough that we have not yet been able to resume the surface operations, washing the ore, &c. The whin, rails, and other materials, are lying at the Alston Railway station, and as soon as the roads are again open, no time shall be lost in getting them to the mine, and in their respective places. The underground department is without any material change. The ore still continues in the headings. Since last report we have commenced operations in the low adit level, which, when brought up, will afford great facilities for the economical working of the mine, as well as to explore an extensive piece of maiden ground in the north part. We expect the weather will shortly make a favourable change, and if so, we shall not be long in preparing a heap of ore for the market.—T. DICKINSON: March 19.

CROW HILL.—The shaft has been sunk 3 ft. wide, making about 3 fms. 4 ft. below the level. Another branch, about 2 in. wide, containing a rich vein of silver-lead ore, has passed through the shaft, dipping fast towards the lode; the stratum is very favourable for producing mineral.—March 17.

CWMDYLE MINES.—The weekly statement will show very little has been done in the past week; for the last fortnight we have had very troublesome weather; some ore has been broken on the Lake lode, but the levels in the mountain remain all blocked up; the men pumping could not work. No ore has been carted to Carnarvon this week, the road in the mountain being impassable.—T. COLLIVER: March 19.

DEVON BULLER.—In the past week the masons have not been able to build for some days, in consequence of the rain. There will be no time lost when the weather becomes more favourable, should it be so the engine-house will be finished in a fortnight more.—W. NEILL: March 22.

DEVON BURRA BURRA.—The ground is easier in the cross-cut to the new lode, and is of the most congenial description for ore, so that we may confidently hope the lode, when cut, will prove to be good, and equal our expectations. The price for driving is again reduced to 40¢ per fm.—J. WOLFFSTAN: March 22.

DEVON TIN.—At the North Mine, during the past week, in the 15 fm. level, we have stopped 1 fm. 1 ft. in the eastern, and 3 fms. in the western stope, and have driven 2 feet in the level, raising from the 50 sacks to surface. The lode is about 1 foot wide, producing good tin stuff. We expect to put the stamps to work by the end of the week, and shall soon commence dressing.—J. THOMAS: March 19.

DEVON UNITED.—We are progressing with the driving of the deep adit level north, and also in getting out the underground water satisfactorily, but without any important alteration since last report.—A. BRAY: March 22.

EAST BLACK CRAIG.—Having completed the stope in the 33 fm. level from No. 1 cross-cut east, the men have commenced to drive west, and have a fine stone of lead with them in the bottom of the end. The stope on the south lode, going east from No. 3 cross-cut, in the 33 west, are also looking very well for lead. The men have cut the south wall in No. 3 cross-cut, and in this level, and we are now put to drive the 25 fm. level west, in which they have a fine stone of ore mixed with rust and blackstone. In driving east from No. 1 cross-cut, in the 27 west, the men have some very fine branches of lead with them; this piece of ground promises well. In the 12 fm. level west we have put the men to drive east from No. 2 cross-cut, where they have some good branches of ore; they holed the level west to No. 3 cross-cut. The pitches are looking as well as last reported. We are pushing the dressing of the ore as fast as possible.—R. WILLIAMS: March 19.

EAST CARADON.—The ground in the 40 fm. level cross-cut south is still hard. In sinking Williams's shaft the ground is favourable, and the men are making good progress.—J. SKEGGE: March 21.

EAST GUNNIS LAKE AND SOUTH BEDFORD CONSOLS.—The lode in the engine-shaft has not been taken down since my last report. In the 49 west the lode is 3 ft. wide, and will yield 3 tons of ore per fm. In the 36 west the middle lode is 3 ft. wide, yielding from 1 to 2 tons of ore per fm.; in the winze sinking in this level the lode is 2 ft. wide, yielding 3 tons of ore per fm.—J. PHILLIPS, jun.: March 21.

EAST TAMAR.—The 113 fm. level is driven south of Fuzzehill engine-shaft 5 fms., and for the last 3 fms. the lode has increased in size and quality, being composed of soft spar and stones of ore, and the ground is also favourable as regards ease in driving. The 90 and north has produced more lead during the past week than hitherto, and there is also a large stream of water issuing from it, which we hope will before long drain the old workings at Whitson. There are two stope in the back of this level, which are yielding together, on an average, 5 cwt. of lead ore per fm., and full 6 tons of fluor-spar. Gullett's engine-shaft is sunk to the 100 fm. level, which is driven south 9 feet on the course of the lode, laying open good profitable ground. The lode here is composed of soft spar and prlan, and good quality of lead. All this part of the mine is yielding favourably, and has a still more promising appearance.—W. ROBERTS: March 21.

EAST WHEEL LEISURE.—In my letter of the 14th inst., I noticed that we had cut a lode about 1 foot wide, 9 feet north of the south or first part; it is now increased to 2½ feet wide, and spotted with ore throughout, at times producing good stones of ore, with jack and mangle; the end driving by six men, at 4¢ per fm. The north part is also intersected in the east end; the both parts are together in this end, which has increased its size to nearly 3 feet; it is a sparry lode, with spots of ore and jack. It is not looking so kindly as the western end; it is driving by six men, at 5¢ per fm. The lode is large in each of these ends, and if the ground continues favourable, we shall extend these levels as fast as possible, in order to prove the lode. We have not yet cut any lode in the south cross-cut, the ground still continues white. The present end is 1½ cwt. of lead south of shaft; driving by two men and two boys at 3¢. 15¢ per fathom.—March 19.

EAST WHEEL TOLGUS.—I have nothing new to report to you from this mine. The ground is still favourable for driving in the cross-cut, and the men are proceeding satisfactorily in sinking the new shaft on North Buller lode.—March 17.

FEED DONALD.—To-day is our monthly setting, and the following bargains have been set:—The Antimony level drive west by two men and one boy, at 5¢ per fm.; we have some good stones of lead in this end, and the ground is better for driving. The end driving west on the lode, south of this, is very poor, and ground for driving. I have suspended the driving of this end for a time, until we lay open more on other lodes, where the ground is more favourable, and lodes more promising. I have put the men to stope the back of the Antimony level, at 24. 10¢ per fm.; we have a good branch of lead to commence at. The bunch of lead we drove through was between 5 and 6 fms. long in the bottom of the level, and about 5 fms. in the back. The end driving east on the lode, south of this, are two men, at 4¢ per fm.; the lode in this end is small, but still producing a little lead. The level to drive west on the lode by four men, at 4¢. 10¢ per fm.; the part we are driving on on this lode is from 3 to 4 feet wide, with two well-defined walls, and spotted throughout with lead, but not in sufficient quantity to value.—J. MURPHY.

GAREG.—I was through the workings of the above mine yesterday. We are progressing rapidly with our new engine-shaft. We are now near 20 fms. deep, and have met with a very hard limestone upon one side of the shaft, and are going to make our lode upon the limestone under the shale, and then we shall get our shaft divided to the limestone, when we get the boards ready. In the 40 we still continue to drive west, where the lode is 2 ft. wide, composed of calcareous spar and clay, with a course of lead mixed with carbonate of lime, producing about 5 cwt. of ore per fm. The lode in this end is still very rich in lead. In the winze sinking below the level, the 40 we have a fine lode 3 ft. wide, composed of limestone, clay, and spar, producing 1 ton 5 cwt. per fathom of lead ore. The water came in on Monday and overpowered us, and we shall not be able to go below the 40 until our engine is at work. There is a very good prospect of this mine becoming a profitable one, from the open ground we have met with, and the two trials we have made below the 40 adit level. We are dressing the ore for sale.—W. RAMSDEN: March 21.

GAWTON UNITED.—We have not as yet reached the footwall of the lode in the 35 fm. level; so far, it is about 4 ft. wide, composed of peach, prlan, white iron, hard capel, and stope of copper ore.—H. HORSWILL: J. MITCHELL: March 22.

GREAT CAMBRIAN MINING AND QUARRYING COMPANY.—I have already, from time to time, informed you as to the progress of the works, and the products of the different lodes, and, therefore, I need scarcely remind you that we have totally discontinued working No. 1 lode; that No. 3 lode, although presenting sufficiently favourable appearances for continued trials, yet, under present circumstances, it is not prudent to continue the work. At No. 3 lode we are progressing with satisfaction, and produce blende and copper, but very little lead; however, the blende and copper are in such quantities as must, in a short time, pay their own costs; I mean within four months from this time, provided the shaft be sunk below the deep adit level 10 fms. on the course of the lode, which is now 6 fms. below the present level, when we should then have to drive eastward 30 fms., or 30 fms. at the outside, and at a cost of about 51. 10s. per fm. On this course being adopted, I am confident that this lode will, of itself, pay the whole of the outlay. At No. 4 we are not working at all; No. 5 we are not working. No. 6 we may call our elvan lode; the shaft has already been sunk 12 fms., and we are now stopping east of shaft (or towards the mountain), and what is now required to be done is to drive on the course of the lode still east. The deep adit level on this lode, to the westward of the shaft (or towards the river), has been driven 35 fms., and to intersect the lode at the shaft we require to drive on 70 fms. further, which will give us 30 fms. of backs for stoping by the time we shall have intersected the shaft. There is every appearance from this lode of a very remunerative return being made, not only in lead but in gold; the gold we have already opened on (and the same is now visible for upwards of 3 fms.) appears as rich as any ever yet found in Wales. To drive these 70 fathoms to intersect the shaft on this lode, will require an expenditure on an average of 72. per fm., or, in round figures, \$604. I cannot say at present that the returns in the shape of lead ore will compensate for driving this adit level, but in all probability, from the present appearance of the shaft, we shall intersect the lode in very rich lead. At No. 7 we have not yet opened. No. 8 has been opened, but it is at present unproductive. I would recommend that, for the present, the whole strength of the company should be devoted to Nos. 3 and 4 lodes, or, if preferred (and under the circumstances I should recommend it), the sole attention of the directors should be given to No. 6 lode, both in sinking the shaft, and driving the adit level. From the adit level of this No. 6 lode I have already laid before you specimens of gold quartz, and every father we drive the gold is increasing in quantity; I would, therefore, suggest to you the necessity of having some cheap and effective machinery for crushing and amalgamating the gold ore; and as I believe one of your committee has offered the loan of one of Drow's triturators and amalgamating machines, from the drawing I have seen, I think it could be easily attached to our water wheel, and economically worked both for lead and gold. Any further explanation you may require I shall be happy to afford you.—WM. HOGAN.

GREAT COWARCH.—In the 30 south the ground has been a little harder for the last few days; it is a hard bar come in from the footwall, which, I think is not very large, and not likely to last long. The lode in the 30 north is improved, and is turning out some lead of a very good quality. No change in any other part of the mine since last reported.—R. NORTHEY: March 21.

GREAT HEWAS UNITED.—We are cutting north in the 36 and 46 fm. levels, to find the north lode, which is divided from the south part several fathoms behind these levels. The ground in the 36 fm. level is very good, and we have no less than three lodes within a few feet distance in the 36, but they rather diverge in going down; we have tin in each of the lodes, but they must be gassed separately, consequently in

will require time to do so, but will be very lasting. I can see many years' work taken out these lodes so far east as our present extent of driving, and am thoroughly satisfied that this mine will be lasting and profitable; but it must be understood that perseverance must be our motto, and have a little time to go through. I have noticed that the south lode was intersected and shifted by a side, which will have effect us for a month or two; this lode requires new cutting out here. The stope and dressing are in good order. If the remarks from a correspondent in the Journal of last week, had not come from a prejudiced yet disappointed party, should have noticed it.—J. WYAS: March 21.

GREAT POLGOOTH.—The new shaft is down about 9½ fms. below the 106 fm. level, and in the last taking down of the lode it produced some good work, but is at present disordered. The 106 fm. level is driven east of No. 1 winze about 15 fms. by the side of the lode, ground very favourable. No. 2 winze is not resumed, on account of the water, as named in our last report. We have commenced sinking winze to the east of No. 2 winze, north of the elvan, and have sunk 2½ fms., producing 1 ton 5 cwt. of ore per fathom. We are now sinking the 106 fm. level, which is now worth full 7 cwt. tin per 100 sacks. The 106 fm. level is driven west of shaft about 15 fms., the lode is not taken down, but we shall cut through it shortly. Nos. 1 and 2 pitches are producing tin, averaging about 5 cwt. of tin per 100 sacks. No. 3 pitch continues good, the lode is 6 feet wide, and worth full 10 cwt. of tin per 100 sacks. We have risen from the 106 fm. level in Jan. about 23 cwt., and in February about 2½ cwt. according to sample, which, with the increase, will bring about the increased quantity expected; from present appearances, there is every prospect of the continuance of the rich lode in the 106 fm. level, and with this the returns will increase. The tribute department is as usual. We have shipped 15 to 20 tons of copper ore about a fortnight, and the sale of tin this month will be full 20 tons.—J. PUCKER: HANCOCK: E. DUNSTAN: March 20.

GREAT SOUTH TOLGUS.—The lode in the 80 fm. level is 1 ft. wide, producing about ½ ton of copper ore per fm. No lode has been taken down in the 70 in the past week. In the 60 the lode is 3 ft. wide, producing 3 tons per fm. In the 40 the lode is 2 ft. wide, producing 4 tons per fm. The lode in the stope in back of the 10 is 1½ ft. wide, producing 8 tons per fm.—J. DAW: March 17.

GREAT WHEEL ALFRED.—The appearances of this mine are the same as last week, except in the 170 fm. level, west of Painter's shaft, where we have a bunch of ore, worth 40¢ per fm.—T. RICHARDS: March 21.

GREAT WHEEL BADDERN.—The ground in the new engine-shaft is a little softer, and again in elvan. We have not cut the lode in the cross-cut at the bottom. The lode in the 46 west is much the same. The lode in the 40 east is 2 feet wide, producing good work for lead, and improving. The lode in the 30 is without any material alteration since last report. The stope and tribute pitches are looking pretty well.—J. ROBERTS: March 20.

GREAT WHEEL FORTUNE.—Harvey's engine-shaft is sunk 6 fms. 3 ft. below the 60, in a congenial stratum. The 60, east of this shaft, is suspended, in order to put the men to rise against the winze sinking below the 50; the south part of the lode in the said shaft is 5 feet wide, worth 25¢ per fathom, and when communications will give ventilation, and lay open a large quantity of good tin to the ground. The lode in the 60, west of the said shaft, is 3 ft. wide, worth 30¢ per fathom, and much as proved since last report. The winze sinking below the 50, east of the said shaft, is now being wrought by eight men and four boys, at 8s. tribute. The 50, west of the per-house shaft, is discharging a large quantity of water, which induces me to think we are nearly through the elvan referred to in my last, and close by the lode. The lode in the 40, west of elvan-course, is 3 ft. wide, worth 18¢ per fm., driving at 2¢ per fm., driving at 3¢ per fm. Caramond lode, in adit end, west of Pascoe's shaft, is 3½ ft. wide, of promising character, yielding low quality stuff. The tribute department is much the same as when last reported. The present favourable weather is inducing us to proceed rapidly with our stamping-engine and dressing-floor.—S. S. NUGENT.

GREAT WHEEL VOR.—The water is in fork on the main lode to the 70 fm. adit, and we are cutting ground for plunger-lifts, with a view to sinking to the 70. The masons are again making progress with Trellawny's engine-house, and the weather continues favourable to finish it in a month to receive the machinery. The steam capstan and winding 32-inch cylinder engine have been set to work, and answers admirably. The engineers are busy in constructing the 24-inch whim-engine at Trellawny's shaft: 32 new heads of stamps, and extra dressing machinery have been set to work, and are working very effectively. On Sosen lode, under side lode, it is contemplated to put a temporary tramroad in the 70, and then to sink an old engine-shaft. Metal lode is improving in the 68. The 60 west is in a course of tin, which has been disordered by a cross branch, but now running in former value. No. 23 winze yields very rich tin work; and in the stope to the east and west of it the lode is worth 80¢ per fm. In No. 25 stope the lode is worth upwards of 40¢ per fathom. The 40 west, from being small and poor, is now much improved, it is 1 ft. wide, and rich for tin; on the whole, Metal lode never looked better than at the present time.

GREY MARE.—In the south end of the whim-shaft we have driven about 11 ft.; the lode is about 5 ft. wide, producing about 12 tons per fm., of good quality; we have not stope there much, being engaged taking down the lode in the side of the level and timbering. In the north end of this shaft we have driven about 11 ft., the lode disordered; we are not trying much, as we are waiting to the south end of the whim-shaft, in order to draw the ore from there; in the south end the men are engaged in stoping the lode, which is 6 ft. wide, of good quality, producing about 14 tons per fm. We have raised but 40 tons this week, the men being principally occupied in stoping and timbering; there is also an increase of water. Next week intend sinking the north shaft (now 6 fms. deep) to the 9 fm. level, and driving south as the lode 3 fms. south is 8 ft. wide, when I shall be able to raise a great quantity of ore. I think it will be advisable to sink to the 20 fm. level as soon as the weather becomes more settled and dry. I have no doubt of being able to send away 10 tons or more per month.—J. WARR: March 17.

HAWKMOOR.—The lode in the 30 east continues large, but produces no ore value; the present end is very wet. The stope above this level continues producing, and the shoot of ore at this point gains ease, and dips with the adjacent strata. The stope in the bottom of the 30 produce 2½ tons of ore per fathom. In the 30 west we intersected the cross-course seen in the 24; the end is now in the mine, which we think is northward, and we expect to see the lode east of this cross-course in a few days' working in the next week. There has been no lode taken down in the pit in the 30, west of cross-course, since last report. The pitch in the bottom of the hill is producing fair returns of ore, which is now being dressed. We have had an assay of the parcel of ore sampled on the 9th inst. from Mr. Bowden, which is ½ above in produce the ore of the former parcel. We have turned the water over the new winze and it works very well.—J. KIRKBY: J. RICHARDS: March 17.

HOLMBUSH.—The lode in the 145, on the Holmbush lode, is still in disordered ground, occasioned by cross branches of spar. In the cross-cut driving south towards the Flap-jack lode we have intersected another branch of the lode, containing splinted stones of ore of good quality; the distance between this and the former branch is not so little, that they may properly be called one lode, being altogether 3½ ft. wide. It is intended to turn east and west for a few feet on these rich branches before driving further south. The lode in the end driving south on the new lead lode is now producing 4 cwt. of silver-lead ore per fm. The lode in the end driving north on the same lode is producing 8 cwt. of silver-lead ore per fm. The 120 west, on the Flap-jack lode, is worth 35¢ per fm. In the back of this level there is an alteration: the men are still rising by the side of the lode, and will continue to do until the ground is holed. In the winze sinking in the bottom of the 110, over the rise of the 120, the men are also sinking in ground by the side of the lode, and will have a greater facility for sinking; the western winze in the bottom of the 110 is holed to the workings below, and giving a fine ventilation to the 120. In the 40 east, on the same lode, the lode is 2 ft. wide, composed of mangle, spotted with ore; the lode here appears to be improving as we go east. In the level above there is much ore. The greater part of the tribute pitches are yielding their usual returns.

HOPE VALLEY.—We have commenced a cross-cut east, in the 35 fm. level, to the eastern part, which we expect to do in a few days, as the distance is short; we find small branches of lead leading from the eastern part in that direction, which we consider a good indication for the eastern part of the lode, and we intend to resume the western part again, the lode in which is 2 feet wide, and will yield 7 cwt. of lead per fm. All other parts of the mine are without any material alteration.—W. BARRETT: March 22.

ST. JOHN DEL REY MINING COMPANY:—

pairs, and they were driven at a slower rate for about a week at the Christmas holidays, because there was a scanty supply of stone from the mine. The quality of the stone has been a little superior to that of last month, but not so much as the appearance of the first four or five days of the month had led us to expect. In consequence of the supply of stone from the mine being rather scanty, 325 tons have been taken in from the old refuse heap, and only a small quantity of completely worthless stone thrown out; so that the yield of gold per ton is necessarily less than formerly, when the supply from the mine being ample, we were able to throw out all the inferior stone, stamping only the superior qualities. The old refuse heap is nearly exhausted. More stone cannot be raised with our present force, so that it is very much to be desired that the endeavours which are being made to increase it may be successful. We have thought it unnecessary to continue the manual separation, and the East Quorra Panella stone is now stamped with the rest. The experiment was determined on at the suggestion of Capt. Treloar, soon after his return from England, as he thought the stone so poor that it did not pay for the working; but we deferred beginning it until after he should have returned from Rio, that he might be present during the whole trial. It was rather singular that in three or four days after the commencement the stone was, in the opinion of everybody, including Capt. Treloar, very different, looking much better, and continued so to the end of the trial, though still it did not present the appearance which we reckoned here to denote rich stone. The elimination of sand, as far as has been proceeded with, is turning out very unfavourably, both with respect to yield of gold and loss of mercury. The operation is interrupted at present by want of fuel, no firewood having been brought in for some time, on account of the badness of the roads, caused by the heavy rains. I think it will not be right to carry on this trial much further; I am informed by Capt. Carlyn that in his experience calculation was hitherto.

Jan. 31.—Gold extracted to date, 20,445 ozs., from 1241-20 cubic feet of sand (result of 21 days' stamping), yielding 16-47 ozs. per cubic foot, and of 4772 tons of stone—28 ozs. per ton. Stamps working during the 21 days, average 150-48 heads. From the heavy rains which have fallen during the first half of the month, there has been an abundant supply of water, but the duty done is still under what it should be, as there have been several stoppages for repairs; and in the beginning of the month the supply of stone from the mine being rather short, from the free borers absenting themselves at that season, the stamps were driven slower, and the stone was spalled coarser, as it had been for some time, and continues to be. The quality of the stone has varied considerably, but has, upon the whole, been better for these 21 days, as is shown by the yield per ton, noted above. The supply from the mine being rather scanty, we have been able to throw out only a small quantity of worthless stone, taking in from the old refuse heap rather more than an equivalent quantity of stone, a little better, but still much inferior to good lode.

The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET, London, March 23, 1855.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Sheathing and bolts .p. lb.	0	1	3	BRASS (sheets) .p. lb.	1	0	6
Bottoms .p. lb.	0	1	3	Wire .p. lb.	11	0	0
Old (Exchange) .p. lb.	0	1	0	Foreign .p. lb.	23	5	0
Best selected .p. lb.	129	0	0	To arrive .p. lb.	23	12	6
Tough cake .p. lb.	126	0	0				
Tin .p. lb.	126	0	0				
South American .p. lb.	126	0	0				
IRON, per Ton.							
*Bars, Welsh, in London.	8	10	0	English, blocks .p. lb.	114	0	0
Ditto, to arrive	7	10	0	Ditto, Bars (in barrels) .p. lb.	115	0	0
*Nail rods	8	10	0	Ditto, Refined .p. lb.	118	0	0
*St. Stafford, in London	8	10	0	Banca .p. lb.	111	0	0
*Bars, ditto	8	10	0	Straits .p. lb.	107	0	0
*Hoops, ditto	9	2	6				
*Sheets, single	9	10	0				
Fig. No. 1, in Wales	4	15	0				
Refined metal, ditto	6	10	0				
Bars, common, ditto	6	10	0				
Ditto, railway, ditto	6	10	0				
Ditto, Swedish, in London	14	0	15				
Fig. No. 1, in Clyde	2	17	0				
LEAD, per Ton.							
English Pig	21	10	0				
Ditto sheet	23	0	0				
Ditto red lead	23	0	0				
Ditto white	23	0	0				
Ditto patent shot	25	0	0				
Spanish, in bond	21	0	0				
American	21	0	0				
FOREIGN STEEL, per Ton.							
Swedish, in kegs to arrive	10	0	0				
Ditto, in fagots	22	0	0				
English, Spring	22	0	0				
QUICKSILVER, per lb.	1	1	11				
* In Liverpool, 5s. per ton less.							
* At the works, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per box less.							

REMARKS.—There is but little alteration to notice, either in the demand for or the price of metals.

COPPER.—A fair consumption of this metal continues; the demand being quite equal to the supply, preserves much steadiness in the market.

IRON.—English bar-iron has been done at former rates. Rails are in good request; about 40,000 tons are wanted for Indian, and 10,000 for home railways. There is a slight improvement in the demand for Staffordshire descriptions: bars of the best quality are quoted at 9s. 10s.; second quality, 8s. 10s., f.o.b. in London. Scotch pigs have varied but little; the market, however, is somewhat easier. On "Change to-day" business reported at 56s. 6d. Sellers quoting 56s. 6d. to 56s. 9d., mixed numbers, cash; the market closed with quietness.

LEAD.—There is nothing new in this metal.

SPELTER.—The market keeps flat; consumers holding off in anticipation of further reduced prices when the spring shipments take place.

TIN.—There is a marked improvement taken place in Banca, sales having been made in Amsterdam of small parcels at 65s. 6d., but it is considered by many that the advance will not last. English is in better demand, but still quiet. Straits of fine quality is very scarce, and realises high prices, in proportion to the bulk that is now offering.

TIN-PLATES.—There have been sold at 30s. IC charcoal, and 26s. IC coke, at which prices there is more disposition to buy, and of late orders have been given out more freely.

STEEL.—The remaining stock of Swedish keg has been sold at 18s. 10s. Boxes have been sold at 21s. There are now only about 40 tons of fagot Swedes steel in the market; the price quoted by sellers is 22s. Swedish keg to arrive in about 14 days is offered at 18s. 10s.

QUICKSILVER.—Same as last.

GLASGOW, MARCH 22.—There is scarcely any variation to report in our pig-iron market since last Thursday. Very little business was done until Tuesday and to-day, when holders appeared more willing to accept the market price, and a fair quantity of iron has changed hands at 56s. 9d.; at the close there were rather sellers at this price. No. 1, Gartsherrie, 61s.; No. 2, g.m.b., 57s. 9d.; No. 3, g.m.b., 56s. 9d. Shipments for the week ending 17th March:—Foreign, 4710 tons; coastwise, 7544 tons=12,254 tons. In the corresponding week of 1854, they were—Foreign, 4107 tons; coastwise, 10,956 tons=15,063 tons.

PARIS.—Our Iron Market shows a slight decline, although holders were in full anticipation of a rise, in consequence of the improvement of the Glasgow Market. The quotations are:—Scotch 175 to 180 fr.; and English (Beaufort) 235 to 250 fr., and we are informed that transactions have taken place at 10 fr. below these prices. At St. Denis, cast metal is very dull; but although the demand is not large, the stock on hand is still small; we must add, however, that buyers refused to give the prices at present quoted. At the ironmasters' fair, at Châlon-sur-Saône, a marked inactivity was observable, little business having been done, and the prices appearing too high for purchasers; but from the few transactions which did take place, it is considered that the present quotations are maintained, although, we ought to observe, nominally.

CHARLEVOIX, MARCH 22.—There is absolutely nothing new in our metal trades; but the greatest activity continues to prevail, and the situation of our numerous establishments never presented a more flourishing aspect than at present. We (Journal de Charlevoix) are informed that at the meeting of the association of charcoal ironmasters, held at Namur, on the 15th inst., it was resolved that the prices fixed on the 1st Feb. should be continued, notwithstanding a lively opposition by several members of the trade, who were in favour of an advance of 20 fr. (16s.) the 1000 kilos., and the continued good demand. The coal trade is still as active as our coalmasters could desire; certain descriptions being much in demand for France; indeed, scarce a week passes but business is refused, in consequence of the demand for those kinds exceeding the supply.

MINES.—Except upon the principle we have often remarked—that in the Mining Market all are either buyers or all sellers, and when shares are unusually low no one will purchase, although it is undoubtedly the best time for doing so—it is difficult to account for the present state of depression and absence of business. There is no lack of money, and upon the whole a decided improvement in many of the mines. We hear of discoveries at Tresaven (a lode in the 50 turning out 6 tons of yellow ore per fm.), at Brewer, and at Great Consols; at the latter mines it is considered of great importance, and will materially enhance the value of the United Mines, to the adventurers in which two-thirds of Great Consols belong, the other portion, we believe, being the property of the St. Day United. Buller is reported as looking better, and has just declared a dividend of 25s. per share. West Damels have been in demand at 130s., being an advance of 30s. per share since our last. East Pool, 105s. to 110s. buyers, but no sellers. North Bullers enquired after, at 27s. 10s. to 31s. 10s. Cupid is developing itself, and showing the elements of a good mine; the old lode in the 70 fm. level has very much improved. In Grahmer and St. Aubyn, the market has not been so active this week; shares, 35s. to 37s. 10s. In Wales, Garg and Orsedd are well reported on, and we hear

of good improvements at the Vale of Towry, and also at North Towry; at the Vale of Towry, 100 tons of lead ore will be sampled next week, and the mine henceforth will return about 70 tons per month. Before the machinery was erected, such were the prospects of the mine considered that the shares readily sold at 2s. per share; and now that a large expenditure has been made for the requisite engine and plant, the original prospects of the mine fully realised, and upon the eve of making good profits, the shares are, with all calls paid up, about 10s. to 12s. 6d. each! a price at which they cannot long remain. Rosewars are 150s. to 160s.; Trefusis, 12s. to 13s. Duvon Great Consols, 37s. to 38s.; Sortridge Consols, 27s. 10s. to 28s. 6d.; Brewer, 12s. 10s. to 15s. 10s.; North Bassets enquired after at 16s. 10s. to 17s.; Bassets, 520s.; Buller, 500s. to 520s. At the Capiaso meeting, held to-day, a dividend of 1s. per share (10,000s.) was declared, and the mine report very satisfactory. Tamar Consols, 17s. 10s. to 21s.; West Basses, 27s. to 28s.; West Caradon, 165s. to 170s.; Tincroft, 2s. to 2s. 10s.

Our respected friend, the purser of West Caradon and other mines, has taken up the pen in defence of his "order," which he conceives to have been unjustly assailed in our remarks a week or two since upon the statements of accounts sometimes issued to shareholders in the printed circulars of certain pursers. We are well acquainted with the excellent manner in which Mr. Crouch himself keeps his mining accounts, and to him our remarks could not in any way apply; few pursers are more correct, or more explicit in their financial statements, and none more ready and willing to furnish even non-adventurers in his mines with every information in his power to give. Our own conscience tells us that we have, in our time, been in this respect a troublesome customer, and it would be an ill requital for the valuable information we have from time to time received, to class him amongst those pursers whose system of accounts we have thought it right to condemn. Mr. Crouch considers that the objections brought against the Cost-book System, as practised in Cornwall, are "mostly groundless." It was, however, against what we considered an abuse of the system that we inveighed, and our meaning does not appear to have been rightly understood. We stated that for a purser to give credit in his accounts for calls having been paid to him, when in reality they had not been paid, was a practice calculated to deceive the out-adventurers, whose only information was obtained from the printed statements sent to them, and which, consequently, ought to show the exact position of the company. To exemplify our meaning in a few words, we will suppose at a two-monthly mine meeting the accounts are credited and passed, showing a debt to the end of Jan. of 5000s. What is termed a division of cost, or a call of 5000s., is made to clear this off; and also another of 5000s., for future operations: total, 10000s. In the next two-monthly statement sent out, credit is given for this 10000s. as having been paid-up, thus leaving parties to suppose there were no arrears of calls, and that the 5000s. debt to the end of January had been cleared off; when, perhaps, in reality, not more than one-third of the call had been received by the purser, and, therefore, the debt for which it was made had not been liquidated; and this system being continued from one two-monthly meeting to another, the debt accumulates, like a rolling snowball, and at last swallows up the engine and all the materials on the mine. We are sure Mr. Crouch would be the first to condemn such a system as this. Mining accounts cannot be too clear or too explicit, and printed statements should, as we said before, present to every shareholder the exact position of their property. We have now before us a statement of accounts, which appears to do this in a manner as simply as satisfactory; the accounts are given under three distinct heads; the first, "profit and loss," shows the exact returns of ores for two months, and the cost for raising them, the balance being the profit or loss as the case may be; the next head is "expenditure and receipts," and shows the actual moneys paid, and actual moneys received during the two months, the balance being carried to the next heading, "assets and liabilities." Here, on one side is given every item owing by the company, and on the other the assets in hand or receivable; and thus, at a glance, those who have not the opportunity of attending meetings can see their position. In regard to the other statement—that adventurers sometimes find themselves saddled with heavy liabilities—Mr. Crouch replies, this may be generally traced to want of good management, and by shareholders connecting themselves with parties underserving of confidence. This, we fear, is too often the truth, but it is a truth requiring experience to teach.

We are happy to hear that the dispute between the Sortridge adventurers and those who had possession of the adjoining ground, into which the ore was dipping, has this day been honourably and amicably arranged, to the satisfaction of the Sortridge Company. The present holders are to receive 2000s. from the company, in liquidation of their expenses.

In the Bullion Market.—Mexican and South American dollars, 4s. 11d. per oz. Bar silver containing gold, all gold above 5 grs. in the pound to be paid for, 5s. 1d. per oz. standard. Bar silver without gold, 5s. 0d. per oz. standard. Bar gold, 77s. 9d. per oz. standard. Fine cake silver, 5s. 5d. per oz.

The directors of the Devonshire Great Consolidated Copper Mining Company, at their board meeting held yesterday, declared a dividend of 9216s., being 9s. per share, out of profits from sales of copper ores sampled in the months of November and December last; after payment of which there remains in hand a balance of 25,289s. 3s. 6d., in cash, or bills not at maturity, and reserved fund, applicable to the general purposes of the company.

At Wheal Buller meeting, on Tuesday, the accounts for January and February showed—Balance from last account, 1685s. 2s. 3d.; ore sold (less dues), 9514s. 3s. 9d.; sundry receipts, 186s. 11s. 7d. 6s.—Mine costs and merchants' bills, 3325s. 0s. 7d.; dividend of 25s. per share, 6400s.; leaving balance in hand, 1537s. 5s. 5d. A dividend of 25s. per share was declared.

At Hington Down Consols meeting, on Thursday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 3234s. 3s. 2d.; ore sold, 4041s. 15s. 10d.—7273s. 18s.—Mine cost, Dec. and Jan., 2228s. 6s. 7d.; dues and assessment on ore, 1071s. 5s. 2d.; January dividend, 1800s.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 3032s. 6s. 3d. A dividend of 6s. per share was declared. Capt. W. Richards reported that the stopes and pitches continued to yield good supplies of ore, and that the present returns might be confidently relied on for the future.

At Wheal Mary Ann meeting, on Tuesday (Capt. Peter Clymo, jun., in the chair), the accounts showed—Mine cost and merchants' bills, Oct., 2013s. 5s. 9d.; Nov., 2034s. 1s. 4d.; Dec., 2038s. 17s. 10d.;—ore sold, 1192s. 10s.; an 80-cylinder steam-engine, 1090s.—7285s. 13s. 11d.—Balance from last account, 656s. 13s. 4d.; ore sold, 5162s. 3s. 6d.; sundries, 4s.; leaving balance against adventurers, 1467s. 13s. 1d. A call of 2s. 10s. per share was made, and a resolution passed, appointing Messrs. Thomas Kittow and John Sobey as a deputation, to accompany the purser, to wait upon the ladies of the soil, and solicit a reduction of the dues. The report of Capt. Peter Clymo, jun., Henry Hodge, and Robert Knapp, will be found in the mining correspondence.

At the Lydford Consols general meeting, on the 12th inst., the abstract of accounts from 21st Dec., 1854, to 12th March, 1855, showed a credit balance of 173s. 5s. 4d. at the latter date. A call of 3s. 6d. per share was made. Capt. J. Richards reported that the engine-shaft was down 8 fms. below the adit, where the lode was a very promising one, containing flocks, quartz, mundle, and lead ore; and he stated that every day's working convinces him more than ever that they were proceeding in the right direction for laying open, in a short time, a good productive lead mine.

At Silver Brook Mining Company meeting, yesterday (Mr. Crew in the chair), the accounts showed a balance to the credit of the mine of 730s. 3s. 2d. The report of Capt. Hoskin stated that the lode at the engine-shaft had improved, and was reported to be of a very fine quality, and that the mine was quite satisfied with the present position of the company, and inclined to go on. He wished to be quite truthful in the matter: they had out a course of lead worth 60s. per fm., but that, as he had said, had diminished; but as they got down, it was more in branches—not bunches. Dr. Ritterbandt thought they had received from Mr. Adam Murray, who was a scientific gentleman, and a large shareholder, the best information they could get; and he (Dr. Ritterbandt) wished to know whether the shares upon which calls had not been paid were forfeitable or not! Mr. Hancock (the solicitor to the company) said, there was no doubt shares upon which the call had not been paid were forfeitable. Mr. Marchant referred to the judgment of Lord Justice Turner in *Harv. v. Clarke* (see *Murchison on British Mines*, p. 29, second edition) in support of this

view. After some discussion, it was resolved that a special meeting be called for the 11th of April, for the forfeiture of all shares on which the payment of calls may be in arrears. A committee was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Adam Murray, Lemnack, Crew, Campin, and Barlow; and a call of 1s. 9d. per share was made, payable on the 31st inst. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

At Boringdon Consols Mine meeting, on the 17th instant (Mr. Robert Barrow in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance from last account, 1084s. 10s. 3d.; calls in arrears, 1017s. 12s. 6d.; ore sold, 4677s. 15s. 4d.; interest, 19s. 11d.—1702s. 7s.—Mine cost and merchants' bills, November and December, 1070s. 18s. 11d.; office expenses, &c., 121s. 1s. 9d.; calls in arrears, 311s. 2s. 6d.; bills receivable, 100s. 17s. 3d.; leaving balance in bankers' hands, 984s. 17s. 8d. A call of 4s. per share was made. Mr. J. Wollerstan reported that the next sampling would be in the first week in April, and was expected to realise from 350s. to 400s. They had about 630 tons of fine and 180 tons of rough mundle on the mine. Captain W. Golden also reported that they had holed the winze on the 16th inst.

At Chegwian Mining Company meeting, yesterday (Mr. S. Weatherly in the chair), the accounts showed a balance against the adventurers of 284s. 6s. 11d. Mr. Low reported that he had made several assays of five different qualities of quartz, and the result was equivalent to 8 ozs. 3 dwts. 11 grs. of fine gold to the ton. Mr. Low's engagement was extended from the 30th of April to the 30th of June, and a call of 6d. per share was made.

At Ragair Mwyn Mining Company meeting, on Thursday (Mr. George Helmore in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last account, 44s. 19s. 6d.; cash received for shares issued, 994s. 15s.; interest, transfer fees, &c., 41s. 5s. 10d.; advances from directors, 300s.; ore sold, 1031s. 13s. 3d.—2440s. 19s. 7d.—Mine cost, 1609s. 5s. 8d.; merchants' bills, 368s. 10s. 5d.; dues, 92s. 15s. 3d.; other expenditure, 317s. 5s. 3d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 611s. 19s. 2d. Messrs. Bell, Edward Morgan, and Weston, were elected directors in the room of those retiring, and Mr. S. L. Price auditor. [A report will be found in another column.]

At Perran and Great Wheal Leisure meeting, on the 14th inst. (Mr. J. T. Mackenzie in the chair), the accounts showed—Merchants' bills from Jan. 1854, to Dec. 1854, 10,530s. 10s. 4d.; mine cost, 12,338s. 2s. 9d.—22,810s. 13s. 1d.—Calls received, 14,377s. 13s. 11d.; ore sold, 6800s. 17s. 6d.; leaving balance against adventurers, 1739s. 19s. 6d. A call of 1s. 6d. per share was made. The reports of Capt. Charles Thomas and John Tonkin were read, and considered satisfactory, showing a steady increase in the production of ore, now amounting to 240 tons per month. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

At Calstock Consols meeting, on the 14th inst. (Mr. Smith in the chair), the accounts showed a balance against the adventurers of 250s. 7s. 6d. A call of 2s. per share was made. Capt. W. Robins and W. B. Collum having reported favourably, and recommended resuming the sinking of the shaft on Zion lode, a resolution was passed that the question be considered and determined on at the next meeting.

Landdown, Cubert United, Koswick, Great Wheal Baddern, Taliesin, and Eym (Derbyshire), have sold lead ore.

Trebell, East Wheal Vor, and Yeoland Consols, have sold black tin.

The Taliesin Lead Company have sold this week 20 tons of lead ore (dry weight, 20 cwt. to the ton), to Messrs. Sims, Williams, and Co., at 12s. 16d.

Pencorse Consols has this week sold 2½ tons lead, 11 tons copper, and 100 tons zinc ore.

Wheal Marshall (St. Stephens) has sold black tin.

At Holmbush Mines, another rich branch of copper ore, of a produce of 13s., was discovered last week in the cross-cut south in the 145 to the Flap-jack lode. The driving will be turned for a short distance east and west on these branches, which are considered part of the Flap-jack lode, and the opening, to a large extent, of 25 fms. of backs of rich ore ground.

At the Ivybridge Mine, there is a rich course of lead ore in the 43 fm. level, which has been driven on for 3 fathoms during the last week, and is continuous and regular; it is also the same in the winze sinking below the 32, and it is expected to be intersected at the 48. The dressing operations are about being commenced. The assay of this ore, by Mr. John Mitchell, contains 42 ozs. 12 dwts. 14 grs. of silver per 20 cwt., and 75 per cent. of lead.

The Nant-ar-Nelle Mining Company's affairs appear not to be progressing in a satisfactory manner, as a requisition to the purser is published in this day's Journal, signed by the holders of one-half the shares, requiring a special meeting to be convened, to rescind some resolutions passed at a previous meeting, to surrender the books, and to appoint a new purser.

During the week shares have changed hands in the following:—

DIVIDED MINES.—Alfred Consols, Devon Great Consols, East Pool, North Wheal Basses, Tamar Consols, Tincroft, Trewheth, West Basses, West Caradon, West Damels, Wheal Arthur, Wheal Basses, Wheal Buller, Wheal Trelawny, Mining Company of Ireland.

MINES WHICH HAVE SOLD ORE.—Buddick Consols, Buller and Basses, Englishknock, Garg, Grahmer and St. Aubyn, Great Wheal Alfred, Leeds Town, North Buller, Rosewars, Sortridge Consols, St. Hilary Wheel Friendship, West Rosewars United, Wheal Trefusis, Kilbricken.

MINES WHICH HAVE NOT SOLD ORE.—Bodewell, Cefn Gwyn, East Bosconia, East Frongoch, Great Sortridge, South Buller and West Penstruthal, Tamar Maria, West Sortridge, Wheal Hendre, Wheal Ludcott.

In Foreign Mines, considerable improvement has been manifested in the market, a very fair amount of business having been done, and higher prices obtained. Copiapo shares rose yesterday 2s., influenced, no doubt, by the declaration of the dividend, reported in another column; the closing price was marked at 20 to 21. Imperial and National Brazilians were higher, transactions being effected yesterday in the former at 2½, and in the latter at 2½. St. John del Rey changed hands at 30, and Royal Santiago was active at 6½, 5½ to 5½. The closing price of Caramba de Jamaica was ¼ to ½; Cobre Copper, ½ to 1; Fortuna, ½ to 1; Linares, ½ to 1; Lusitania, ½ to 1; Pontigbaud Silver Lead, 15 to 16.

At the Copiapo Mining Company meeting, yesterday (Mr. J. Labouchere in the chair), a dividend was declared of 1s. per share. The profits for six months from the 1st Feb. 1854, up to the close of the year, have been valued at 12,500s., leaving a profit of 11,081s. 15s. The report of the directors was exceedingly favourable, and it is confidently expected that the dividends will be continued annually.

At Fort Bowen Mining Company meeting, on Thursday, resolutions were unanimously passed, authorising the directors to issue 14,900 shares on hand upon such terms as they may think fit, and to raise a sum not exceeding 5000s. upon debentures. It is confidently expected that a cargo of ore will shortly arrive in this country by the vessel that took out the machinery. Several of the shareholders in attendance put down their names for a portion of the shares, and also as subscribers to the debentures.

At Wheal Jamaica Copper Company meeting, at the offices, Kingston, Jamaica, on the 13th Feb. (Mr. Richard James Cade Hitchins in the chair), the accounts showed a balance in hand of 7467s. 18s. 1d. Resolutions were passed to convene a general meeting, for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject of a further call; and Messrs. Hitchins, Derbyshire, Girard, Cooper, and Espey, were re-elected the committee of management for the ensuing 12 months. Mr. John West, the purser, reported that the whole of the workings, including the work in the stopes, during the 10 months that had elapsed since the appointment of the committee, embraced a total extent of driving equal to 205 fms., and that there could be no doubt, from the combined testimony of all who have examined Charing Cross, that the company possesses a mineral property of proved value, which only needs a patient and energetic development, to repay the outlay necessary to its complete establishment. There were at present 6 tons of dressed ore at Retreat, on the way to the shipping place; at the mine there were 4 tons of ore dressed, 5 tons undressed, and 1 ton 11 cwt. of balansa, making with 5 tons 6 cwt. shipped to New York, 29 tons 17 cwt. of ore, dressed and undressed. The ore market in America being in a very depressed state, it was proposed, in future, to ship the ore for England, and the committee hoped to forward 10 or 12 tons by the next vessel, for Liverpool. Mr. G. B. Nethercole, M. & C., in reporting on the mines, thus concludes:—"On taking a review of the progress of the mine, since the commencement of working it up to the present time, its gradual and steady improvement leads me to expect most favourable results."

The St. John del Rey Mining Company have advices to the 31st Jan. The produce for Dec. was 11,207s. 18s., and the cost 6812s. 2s. 5d.; leaving profit, 4395s. 15s. 7d. The calculation of sand, so far as it had been proceeded with, led to the sink being unfavourably, both with respect to yield of gold and loss of mercury. Gold extracted to date, 20,445 ozs., from 1241-20 cubic feet of sand (result of 21 days' stamping), yielding 16-47 ozs. per cubic foot, and of 4772 tons of stone = 438 ozs. per ton. Stamps working during the 21 days, average 150-48 heads.

The advices received by the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association are still of the same cheering character as last reported. The very heavy rains had caused much delay in the works, but the damage done was repaired, and active operations were again resumed. The new 27 fathom level was progressing favourably, and will (some time before it intersects Daval's shoot) yield large quantities of auriferous jettings for the stamps, by which the produce will be greatly increased. The association has received 16 lbs. 0 ozs. 9 dwts. of gold dust per the last mail steamer.

The National Brazilian Mining Association have advices dated Coahuila, Jan. 30.—"Our chief attention of late has been in clearing, repairing, and working the sink formerly called Terrell's winze; the stone in this sink, and the course in which the layer is running, gives me an excellent opinion of it, the ground from this part to the great sink east being all solid and untried. At Cuaba, a little has been done, in consequence of continued heavy rains up to the 23d inst. A new road has been made for carting the stone broken at the Sorrotia, for the carriage of which a contract has been made, and we hope the weather will admit of the whole being carried without interruption. Produce for the month, Mks. 3 1 25."

The Mariquita Company have received despatches, of which the following is an abstract:—

MARQUITA MINES FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1854.

Ores raised, 994 tons; rough ore, remains, still stuff, and remains of remains stamped, 1637 tons; average number of stamp-heads at work per diem, 87 6-10ths; daily average per stamp-head, 12 cwt.; fine gold

completing. Colerain's shaft is worked up. The masons have been pretty regular in working since my last report, and the furnace has been smelting regularly for the past 10 days; we are also about to commence smelting the slag. —H. Thomas.

The Royal Santiago Mining Company have advices, dated Cobres, Feb. 10:—I have to state that the mines almost throughout were looking well yesterday. Capt. Tippet and myself have examined all the underground works. At Taylor's shaft the lode is 7 feet wide, in the western part the ore is from 5 to 6 feet wide, in the eastern from 4 to 5 feet wide, and will produce from 4 to 5 tons of ore per fathom, at least. At the present moment I can confidently say it is the best lode I have ever seen in this shaft. I assure you we are pushing it forward as fast as we can, as we are very anxious to see it down to the 70 or 72 ft. level. In the 62 ft. level, east and west, there has been no alteration since last advices: these stations are worked by free labourers, but they do not progress so quickly as we could wish. In the 51 ft. level east the lode is 3 feet wide, and its quality the same as last reported. In the 50 ft. level south-west the lode has considerably increased in size, it is about 6 feet wide, of a very promising appearance, and will produce from 3 to 4 tons of ore per fathom. In a few days we hope to get on with the winze from the 44 ft. level, where there is hardly any doubt we shall have the same good lode of ore. In the 44 ft. level the lode is 4 feet wide, and will produce 5 tons of ore per fathom. We are pushing this end forward as fast as we can, but we have difficulties to contend with from the constant falling of ground from the backs, which retards our progress. In the winze in the bottom of the 44 ft. level west the lode continues as formerly mentioned, excepting the eastern part, which has improved a great deal since: the lode is 5½ feet wide, and will produce, for the whole length of winze, 12 tons of ore per fathom. In the backs there is no particular alteration to mention; the lode continues the same to the east and west, as mentioned by Capt. Tippet, and of the same produce per fathom. We have set to free labourers a cross-cut in the 33 ft. level west, and hope to intersect the lode there in a few fathoms cross-cutting. In the steps in the back of the 35 ft. level east the lode continues the same, from 5 to 6 feet wide, producing good saving work.

The intelligence concerning the United Mexican Mines, received by way of the United States, fully confirms what has been stated in the recent despatches coming direct. A very gratifying circumstance in addition to the mining news is mentioned. It appears that upwards of \$32,000 are remitted by the Government of Mexico, in liquidation of a claim of \$200,000, long outstanding, which the company has compromised, though the original demand, arising out of the abstraction of dollars from their haciendas by Santa Anna, was in strictness much larger. At the opening of business in the shares this morning, they were firm at 5½ to 6 per share, but closed at 5 to 5½. At a moment when a good deal of expenditure was required, the above remittance was at once valuable and wholly unexpected for all events, in so large an amount. The fact is one that causes a favourable interpretation to be put upon the conduct and character of the present Ministry of Finance. It may be added that, while the last despatch spoke of a vein of only 2½ varas (or yards) in La Trinidad Mine, it now appears that there has been an extension of 6½ varas, and there may be a further increase. This looks but the more encouraging, as the vein in question is adjoining the celebrated mine of La Luz, which for years yielded to the fortunate adventurers almost fabulous quantities of silver. The following extracts are from a letter to the secretary, dated Feb. 19:—

JACQUES MARIA.—The improved prospects of this mine have impressed the managers with the expediency of commencing a new shaft; and, in concert with Mr. Glass and the administrator—the situation having been determined on—the work was begun. **LA TRINIDAD.**—The manager also writes: The vein is now 6½ varas wide, and the relic (wall of the lode) not yet reached; when this takes place, Mr. Furber will open trenches to the north-west and south-east, proceeding laterally, with the hope that this rich cuerpo will extend.

ACCIDENTS.—I have now the pleasure to inform you that advices reached from Tampico yesterday, announcing the payment of \$32,225 on the shipment of specie at the commencement of this month: this places us in good funds to carry on the speculation of the mines.

The Pontgibaud Mining Company have received reports from Captain Richard, of which the following are extracts:—

ROSE.—Since my last the 80, south of St. Mary's engine-shaft, on the St. George's lode, has been driven about 4 metres through a fine course of ore, and will now produce 4 tons of ore per fathom; in the same level south, on the No. 3 lode, the lode has greatly improved, and produces about 2 tons of ore per fathom. The rise against St. Peter's shaft is turning out about 16 cwt. of ore per fathom. We have commenced a deep adit level north and south of St. Peter's shaft, over this rise, and find the lode looks well. The south end is producing 3 tons per fathom, and the north end 1 ton per fathom, the ore rich in silver. In the lode in the north of Anna's shaft, the lode is still looking well, yielding upwards of 1 ton of ore per fathom. The adit level, north of Anna's, continues to open well, and is yielding 1 ton of good ore per fathom.

ROSE.—In a rise in the back of the 60, north of St. Joseph's shaft, on the eastern part of St. Mark's lode, we have a lode turning out upwards of 1 ton of ore per fathom. The lode in the winze in bottom of the 60, south on the B lode, is still looking as good as ever. We have this month begun to sink a winze in bottom of the adit level, 30 metres north of St. Joseph's shaft, where there is a good deal of unexplored ground; after sinking about 3 metres we came on a good course of ore, worth at this moment 500 per fathom. **MINE.**—This morning the lode is still looking well, and yielding large quantities of ore, but we have now lessened our number of men there, as we shall soon be short of men, until we have means to dress more ore.

BARBECOT.—We have discovered a good bunch of ore in the rise on the No. 1 lode, over the adit level at B; it is about 1 ft. wide, and will turn out full 2 tons of ore per fathom. When this rise is communicated to surface we intend driving on the No. 1 lode south, and No. 2 north, there being not more than 4 metres between these two lodes; both may be proved in this way, by short cross-cuts occasionally. The ground in the cross-cut is changing, and we hope to cut the B lode shortly; this piece of ground promises to be valuable, as it can be worked for several years without the aid of any pumping machinery, and the ore can be easily conveyed to Barbecot for treatment.

FRANKE.—We have completely drained the water to the bottom level, and the gas is gradually being cleared by the effect of our machines, so that we hope very shortly to be able to go into the deep workings, which are reported to have been left rich.

The Lusitania Mining Company have advices from Capt. J. Holman, their mining agent at the Aljustrel Mine, Portugal, dated March 11th, of which the following are extracts:—"I sent you all particulars in my last letter about the lode, but since that I have made a further trial on it, by driving east and west in our adit level, and I find the lode improving in width, also producing good stones of black and yellow copper ore, such as I sent you in the box of samples. I have also made a trial of the water that comes from the lode in our adit level, with a small box of iron, and find it to answer well. I have enclosed a sample of the copper from the box to you for inspection. I do not think there can be any much better. This sample I send you is taken from the box after being kept in the water in our adit level six days; but we cannot do much here in this level about making copper, for as soon as we get the shaft down, and cut the lode we shall draw this level dry; but as soon as we cut the lode in our deep adit level, I think we shall be able to establish cementation works on a large scale, and make good returns. I mentioned to you in my letter of the 15th February, that the south part of the lode was a mass of iron ore, but since making a further trial on the lode by driving east and west, I find the copper part which is the north part of the lode, cutting out the iron ore, and the horse as well. Now, from present appearances, and the results of the trial, I am quite satisfied to say we have a good lode, and it is my opinion that at our level we shall have a rich lode. I am glad to inform you that we have commenced our shaft again, but the ground is hard for sinking. I send you the measurements for February. Our shallow adit level driven 61 ft.; our deep adit level driven 95 ft.; our new shaft driven 12 ft."

The Liberty Mining Company have received advices, per Baltic, from their resident director, dated Vaucluse Mine, Virginia, March 5, of which the following are extracts:—"Herewith you will receive the accounts for the last month, during the whole of which severe frost prevented rapid progress in any surface-work. The weather is now changing, and I hope will become more genial. We are working with the new stamps, and I trust I shall get the shaft in place this week. Several attempts were made to work the stamps during the frost, but it was for so short a time practicable, that I shall carry the result, which is very good, into this month's return. This morning we have started again, and intend to run continually both day and night."

The Colonial Gold Company have advices from New South Wales to the 5th Dec., to the following effect:—

LOUISA CREEK.—There is no alteration in the produce of the quartz, the lode having continued poor in the last 5 ft. level south. Preparations were made to commence other steps in the level of the incline; and as the quartz in this portion of the lode is considered good, better returns are looked forward to. The alluvial washing had been more productive; they still continued to work the alluvium at the back of the ridge, but as it had latterly not given much encouragement, trials were about being made on another part of the claims. The supply of water still continues good at Louisa Creek, although, with the exception of the company's dam, most other holes are dry. The season was dryer than has been known for several years.

TANARONG.—All the departments were in a state of great forwardness, and on the arrival from Sydney of some pieces of the machinery for the stamps, which were expected in about a week, everything would be in readiness for starting early in January; but the effect of the long-continued drought had so diminished the usual supply of water, that there was scarcely sufficient for ordinary purposes; and unless there should be a fall of rain, the commencement of stamping and washing operations would be delayed. On the Royal vein an incline tramroad from the creek, on the course of the vein, was being made, which would be of considerable advantage in working; towards the creek the vein is found to be much larger and more regular; the gold contents of the creek are much higher than that of the top of the hill. A splendid bunch of rich gold quartz has been cut between the original workings and the creek, and some men have been placed to sink on it, in order that an idea of its extent may be arrived at. The vein altogether looked exceedingly well, being much more regular towards the creek, and in the end of the incline plane some good specimens of gold had been found. The quantity of quartz at the surface was estimated at about 400 tons.

BURNABY.—A dam has been built across the Macquarrie, which raises the water sufficient height for the tanks; the course of the river has been turned to the other side of the bed, and as all the buildings were erected, it would not be long before an efficient trial of the bar would be made. The dryness of the season was in this locality of much advantage, there not being more water running than was required to work the tanks. A small quantity of gold only had been obtained from the first operation of washing, but better ground had been reached, and the returns were improving. The quantities obtained would be stated in the gold account to be made up at the end of the month.

Advices have also been received from Mr. Comer, dated to the 6th Jan. He had received the letter which was sent to him in October last, informing him the board would probably determine to break up the establishment and discontinue operations in the colony of Victoria. Mr. Comer had given the necessary directions for the discontinuance of all operations which involved labour, and had discharged the men not under contract, and he was awaiting the receipt of further instructions from England before taking steps for closing the company's affairs.

The Wildberg Great Consolidated Mining Company have received advices from their mines to March 15:—"At the West Mine, the Blumengang lode, in the sink, will produce 13 tons of silver-lead ore per ft. No. 1, upper stop, will produce 13 tons of silver-lead ore per fathom. No. 2, middle stop, will produce from 5 to 6 tons of silver-lead ore per fathom. Beck's lode, driving east from the south cross-cut, will produce 4 tons of silver-lead ore per fathom. Beck's lode, driving west from the south cross-cut, is somewhat improved; it will now produce 11 tons of silver-lead ore per ft. At the East Mine, Dean's lode, sinking under the 15, west from Michael's shaft, is somewhat improved, and now we have commenced sinking under that level by fear sink, and am glad to say the lode is improved; it will now produce from 4½ to 5 tons of silver-lead ore per fathom. The new winze, sinking below the 20, east of Michael's shaft, will produce 2 tons of silver-lead ore per fathom. We have since my last report intersected, by cross-cutting, Dean's lode in the 30 ft. level, 30 fms. east of Dean's winze; this lode is 4 ft. wide, and will produce 1 ton of silver-lead ore per fathom. I have set

this lode to two men, to drive east on its course, at 1½ lbs. per fathom. The timbering and cutting down of Carter's engine-shaft will be completed by the end of next week to the 40. The engineer has got the cylinder-bottom in its place, and is now engaged in getting in the cylinder. The masons have been obliged to suspend building the boiler-house walls this week, in consequence of the frost, but they are engaged in dressing stones for the different buildings. The stamps are working remarkably well, and the ore returns for this month did fair to be very good. The frost and snow this week have somewhat retarded our surface-works, but the weather is again a little milder."

The Port Phillip and Colonial Gold Mining Company have advices from the resident director at Melbourne to the 5th January, in which he gives the following information:—

MISTAKE.—On this subject I have as yet nothing very definite to communicate. I have addressed a letter to the chief commissioner on the subject of mining, he being just now absent from town on the Gold Fields Commission; I do not expect to get his answer in time to forward by this vessel. After a careful consideration of the subject, I have come to the conclusion that the best plan to be adopted is to take post session of part of the Woolshed Creek (in the Ovens district), and work it in the best way we can, according to the imperfect method adopted by the diggers in that district, which altogether differs from the system adopted at the western gold fields, owing to the absence of running streams at the latter. I have instructed Mr. Thompson to get as large a portion of the creek as he can, and commence at once, unless he fits to differ in opinion with me, and I can suggest some more feasible and satisfactory plan of operations. There is no doubt that it is rich both in gold and tin. The main deposit of tin ore yet discovered is upon the Woolshed Creek. I shall anxiously await Mr. Thompson's reply to my last letter, and I hope, by the Overland Mail, to be able to report that he has made a commencement.

GOLD PURCHASE.—This business I have closed, as I intimated to the board in a former letter it is impossible to compete with the banks, and with the exchange on London going down it is hazardous to make purchases at the gold fields.

ASSAY OFFICE.—The business of this office is improving. Last month we melted 15,000 lbs. for the public, and a very large quantity for the banks. The public are now beginning to see that it is to their advantage to ship assayed gold instead of dust, and I am in hopes of having the gold of another of the banks to melt; my only fear is that the Government may be induced to start their assay office again.

ACCOUNTS.—These are not quite ready, but shall be forwarded by the Overland Mail, to leave here on the 23rd inst.

GOLD FIELDS.—The resident director alludes to the disturbances at the western gold fields, for an account of which he refers the directors to the Melbourne papers. A commission was on a tour to the gold fields, and their report and recommendations for the future management of this important interest are looked for with some anxiety, and it is quite expected that the license fee will be given up, and the gold commission almost, if not entirely, done away with.

The Port Phillip and Colonial Gold Mining Company received advices yesterday, per the Blackwall, to the 29th of December; and, although the despatches by the Argos were about a week later, some additional satisfactory information is obtained by the Blackwall. She has on freight 15 tons of rich tin ore, obtained from the company's workings, and valued at upwards of 3000. The superintendent states that the accounts up to the end of the year would be forwarded by the mail leaving the colony on the 23rd of January; and immediately upon their receipt in this country a meeting of the proprietors will be convened, to lay before them a full account of the adventure.

The Peel River Land and Mineral Company have advices from their general superintendent to the 28th Dec. The land which had been leased to the Cordillera Company, and upon which 1457 ozs. of gold had been raised during 10 months, was delivered over to the Peel River Company's general superintendent on the 19th Dec. last. The sheep-shearing having been finished, the wool was in course of shipment. The clip from 52,000 sheep was contained in 300 bales; gross weight of wool, 992 cwt.

The English and Australian Copper Company have advices from Mr. Hamilton, their manager at Adelaide, to the 24 January, in which the following information is given:—

SMEETING WORKS.—39½ tons of copper have been delivered to the Burra Burra Company in the month of December, being the quantity due to them for ores delivered to the end of Oct., 1854. Four furnaces were still at work, but the want of fuelers was very much felt, and the manager to dispose of 5400 tons of ore yearly. A new feature in the works is, that the Sydney coal has been found to answer every purpose of smelting the ore; and although a larger quantity was used than of English coal, this is attributed to its not being so clean; but this, it was thought, could be easily remedied, and would be a matter of much importance, as the Sydney coal could be placed at Port Wakefield at much less expense than coal shipped from England.

MULES.—These were working well in harness, and with the additional supply expected by the *Malacca*, it was anticipated that they would, during the coming season, be able to convey 2700 tons of ore to the ports, and return with a like quantity of coal, thus enabling the manager to dispose of 5400 tons of ore yearly. With 1000 mules, however, the manager is persuaded the works might be carried on during the whole year, or very nearly so. After mature consideration, he is of opinion that, with 1000 mules, Sydney coal and labour cheap, as it assuredly will soon be, the affairs of this company may again, ere long, be placed on a satisfactory footing. The 15 furnaces, at a very modest calculation, will smelt 15,000 tons of ore in the year.

The Burra Mine is about to be worked in the deep level; the monster engine will commence in a few days forking the water, and it is expected that in a month or two, perhaps, the mine will be again delivering rich ores. According to the superintendent's report, there are more ore in the mine than can be brought to grass in the next five years. There are 320 men at work, and the number is daily increasing, for labour is becoming rapidly more plentiful. Here is another cause of congratulation—the certainty, I may say, of abundance of ore to work upon.

REMARKS.—As it is impossible to take stock and continue smelting operations, and as it would be an act of madness to put the furnaces out, I shall send a provisional report, which will be a sufficient guide, I trust, until it is in my power to place before you a more regular and more authentic statement of your affairs. This is most busy period of the year. There are no objections of this kind, or any other, to the month of June.

The North British Australasian Company have advices from Sydney to the 30th Dec., and from Kaway to the 16th Nov. Mr. Mackay advises a large consignment of wool (108 bales), and adds that the quantity of that article of produce will be much greater this year than heretofore; but that the continued droughts which prevailed in the country, unless a change of weather took place, materially affected the wool season, the immediate prospects of which were discouraging. Mr. Beeger transmits Capt. Bray's report for Oct., on the workings of the mine, and states that the summer had sunk the perpendicular shaft to the back of the cross-cut, by which a communication with the old diagonal shaft would be made; and they were then engaged in preparing to sink the shaft perpendicular below the 24 fathom level. In the east end of the level the lode had become wider, and of a more promising appearance, with spots of ore, and Mr. Beeger expected they should meet with ore there, as there was a large mass of muddle, with ore above it, in the upper levels. Ninnis's shaft had not been sunk more than 3 fms., on account of the water, and the lode was not yet reached. The immediate prospects of which were discouraging. The lode at the shaft had assumed an improved appearance, and the old miners expected to find a bunch of ore. A party of miners were employed to rise a winze from the 24 east of engine-shaft to the 16, to break the ore which was left standing when the old workings were suspended.

The Kapunda Mining Company (South Australia) have received advices from their agents to the 1st Jan., at which date the underground operations are reported to be satisfactorily progressing. Labour was plentiful, although it was difficult to get miners of the right stamp. Notwithstanding this, at the public settings two days previously to the date of these advices, there were 16 tribute pitches taken, varying from 5s. to 10s. in 12, and other pitches were expected to be taken in the course of the week; three bargains of output were also let. Of the whole force of about 100 men, 50 pickmen were employed on tribute and tutwork, and the remainder on surface work. The quantity of ore raised in December is estimated at about 80 tons. Freight had been engaged per *Anne Foster*, and the shipment in progress of 150 tons of copper ore, at 25s. per ton. A further parcel of 200 tons, then ready, was to be shipped early in February.

The Quartz Rock Company have received advices, from which it appears that some parties have been endeavouring to raise a large capital in France, with the view of obtaining possession of the property from the present proprietors, of making such an offer to the Quartz Rock Company as would be acceptable to the shareholders. Under these circumstances, the next advices from Mr. Waddell, the secretary, are looked forward to with much anxiety. It appears that the 11,000 preferential shares, of 5s. each, have been taken up, with the exception of 3000, which are reserved. The workpeople had returned to the mines, in the expectation that the works would be soon commenced.

The Linars Mining Company have convened the half-yearly general meeting for Wednesday next, to receive the accounts and reports to the 31st Dec. last. Messrs. W. W. Taylor, J. Taylor, Jun., and R. Taylor, three of the directors who go out of office by rotation, will offer themselves for re-election; and Mr. W. Cox is a candidate for the directorship vacant by the retirement of Mr. T. A. Readwin. The shareholders are invited to attend the meeting, which will, no doubt, make him very popular with his fellow-shareholders. It has been resolved at a meeting of the directors, that a dividend of 10s. per share shall be declared on the 10,000 paid-up shares of the company, payable on the 16th April next.

The Gold Mining Share Market continues flat, although a few transactions were officially announced yesterday, shares changing hands in the following:— Colonial Gold, ½ to ¾, and Walter, ¾; New South Wales, 3½; Oriental Bank Corporation, 3½; Union of Australia, 3½; ditto New, 8; Union of London, 2½. The closing quotations of other securities of this description were—Australia, 62 to 64; Chartered Bank of Asia, 1 to 1½; ditto, English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 3 to 3½; ditto, ex div.; South Australia, 37 to 39.

In Miscellaneous Shares, the market, during the week, has shown an improvement. Crystal Palace shares changed hands yesterday at 3½; Australian Agricultural, 30½; Van Diemen's Land, 12. Mexican and South American Smelting were freely dealt in yesterday at 6½, and the closing price was 6½ to 7; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 58. The closing quotation of Berlin Water-Works was 2½ to 3½; ditto; British American Land, 58 to 62; Electric Telegraph, 15 to 16; Netherlands Land, 1 to 1½; North British Australasian, ½ to 1; Scottish Australian Investment, 1½ to 1½. In Joint-Stock Banks, a large amount of business was transacted yesterday, shares changing hands in the following: London Chartered Bank of Australia, 21; London and County, 37; New South Wales, 33½; Oriental Bank Corporation, 38½; Union of Australia, 3½; ditto New, 8; Union of London, 2½. The closing quotations of other securities of this description were—Australia, 62 to 64; Chartered Bank of Asia, 1 to 1½; ditto, English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 3 to 3½; ditto, ex div.; South Australia, 37 to 39.

HULL, March 22.—Our correspondents (Messrs. T. W. Flint and Co.) state that their market for mining shares is still inactive, and the amount of business transacted quite insignificant. In railways there is no material alteration, and quotations are, in a great measure, influenced by political rumours; the continued influx of gold into the Bank has, however, a tendency to stiffen prices.

SHEFFIELD, March 22.—Our correspondents (Messrs. E. Smith and Son) state that the market for mining shares is very stagnant, and where there is an alteration in prices it is for the worse. West Phoenix have been done at 3½. 12s. 6d., including both calls, which now makes nearly 200 per share called up, or, in round numbers, 20,000, in a mine from which not a farthing has yet been paid in dividends. Prices of Wales are rather lower, in consequence of 1½, call to pay for the machinery.

British mining enterprise in Germany wears a very cheering aspect. During the past year many mines, chiefly copper, have been successfully explored, and it is evident that the want of capital, and an energetic exercise of the science of mining, as applied to our native mineral resources, constituted hitherto the only bar to richly remunerative results in this field of labour. Copper, gold, silver, and platinum have been met with in considerable quantities; the first, copper, has, in the Darmstadt and Waldeck districts, so amply repaid the outlay of a few gentlemen, that they have been enabled, without any large amount of capital, comparatively considered, to carry on very extensive mining operations. Foreign mining, as far as Prussia, Austria, and the Principalities are concerned, is totally unaffected by the present war—in fact, the entire national or domestic industry of those countries seems undisturbed by it.

From Australia, the *Blackwall* arrived at Plymouth on Thursday, having left Melbourne Heads on the 4th of January. She has on freight about 50,000 ounces of gold dust and a cargo of wool, and 160 passengers, many of whom have been successful at the diggings. Her news, however, was anticipated by that of the *Argos*, full particulars of which appeared in our last Journal. The *Blackwall* has 162 bays of tin ore on freight, and the *Arson*, which sailed from Launceston on the 24th Dec., 56 ozs. of silver.

It appears that the undermentioned vessels (besides others) are now on their way home, with gold on freight:—

Name.	From—	Sailed.	Ounces.	Specie.
Hannah	Sydney	Dec. 14	1,600	1,800
Arson	Launceston	Dec. 23	1,422	15,000
China	Sydney	Dec. 1	250	3,000
John Hallett	Adelaide	Nov. 25	226	30,000
Victoria	Adelaide	Dec. 31	—	30,000

From the Cape of Good Hope (Jan. 22), we learn that the copper mines were prosperous, and the English schooner, *Abel*, of Fowey, which had come from Melbourne with a cargo, was loading copper ore and wine for England.

At the Irish Land Company meeting, at Manchester, on the 15th inst. (Mr. George Wilson in the chair), the report was adopted, and a dividend at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum declared.

In the Penzance County Court, Mr. James Permewan brought an action against Messrs. Watson and Ensor for work and labour performed in connection with the Bosworth Mine. Mr. R. Millet was for the plaintiff, and Mr. James Pascoe for the defendant. According to the evidence adduced, it appeared that the promoters of the mine were not to blame, inasmuch as in many instances they had been deceived by the reports of the underground agents. A great quantity of mineral was brought to the surface from a very shallow depth, which was supposed by the underground agents to be very valuable for tin. The mine was not a bubble, but appeared a legitimate speculation. When, however, the stuff came to be sampled, it turned out that it was only worth about 2s. per sack; the adventurers had laid out a great sum of money in machinery, but the ore was almost worthless—not even sufficient to pay the returning charges. The mine was stopped after an amount of 7000l. to 8000l. had been expended upon it. At a meeting, held on the 11th April, 1854, Mr. Richards, one of the most influential shareholders, was present, and it was then decided that the materials should be sold, and Mr. John Richards, Jun. (the purchaser), authorised Mr. Permewan to put up Bosworth materials for sale. Upon this authority Mr. Permewan acted, but Mr. Richards found his difficulties increase he withdrew from the scene, and some period afterwards another auctioneer, Mr. Borna, appeared. A special meeting of the shareholders was then called, and, notwithstanding the work and labour performed by Mr. Permewan, as well as the expenses of advertisements, the sale was superseded. The sum claimed was for journeys to the mine, writing manuscripts, examining proofs, and sending off circulars, and attending to the special meeting at Marazion. At the meeting of the 10th April, it was proved that Mr. Permewan had signed for himself and Mr. Timothy Paynter, of London, and consequently he was a partner. He had sued Messrs. Watson and Ensor because he understood they were shareholders, and in answer of their calls. Since the present proceedings had taken place they had offered to sell him shares. Mr. Pascoe briefly stated that at the time Mr. Permewan received the order he was a shareholder, and that he must know that all authority to dispose of any property must emanate from the adventurers; such coming from the purchaser would be nugatory and void.

LEAD ORES.			
Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
Landown	64	£ 9 10	Walker, Parker, & Co.
ditto	6	5 6	ditto
ditto	15	5 8	ditto
Cubert United	24½	14 3 6	Sims, Williams, & Co.
Sold on the 20th March.			
Keswick	30	£ 11 12 6	Cookson and Co.
Sold on the 23rd March.			
Great Wheal Badden	22	£ 14 15 6	R. Mitchell and Son.
ditto	11	9 17 0	ditto
Eyam (Derbyshire)	84	—	—
Sold on the Mine.			
Talisin	20	£ 12 16 6	Sims, Williams, & Co.

BLACK TIN.			
Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Amount.
Trebell	1 15 12	£ 61 0 0	£ 100 1
ditto	0 2 12	51 10 0	6 5 3
Sold on the 17th March.			
East Wheal Vor	4 15 3	£ 54 5 0	£ 205 12 9—Treloweth.
ditto	0 17 0	40 0 0	34 0 8
Sold on the 21st March.			
Yeoland Consols	6 0 0	£ 61 10 0	£ 369 0 0—Charlestown.

COPPER ORES.					
Sampled March 7, and sold at Pearce's Royal Hotel, Truro, March 22.					
Mines.	Tons.	Price.	Mines.	Tons.	Price.
Devon Great Consols	120	£5 5 0	Hingston Down	65	£5 10 0
Wheal Josiah	118	6 8 0	ditto	62	6 1 0
ditto	81	2 13 0	ditto	55	6 3 0
ditto	77	3 1 0	West Caradon	90	8 15 0
ditto	75	4 14 6	ditto	79	9 2 0
ditto	71	3 18 6	ditto	66	9 6 0
ditto	54	8 9 0	ditto	32	13 6 0
Wheal Anna Maria	127	5 10 0	Wheal Arthur	80	4 11 0
ditto	103	11 2 6	ditto	63	3 10 0
ditto	97	2 13 6	ditto	54	3 15 6
ditto	94	7 4 0	ditto	32	8 4 6
ditto	80	7 1 0	Bedford United	86	7 16 6
ditto	76	6 18 6	ditto	63	7 19 6
ditto	64	5 2 6	Wheal Friendship	77	7 19 6
ditto	59	1 16 0	ditto	59	5 19 6
ditto	49	6 9 6	Great Onslow Consols	90	3 3 6
ditto	43	1 6 0	ditto	20	6 14 0
Wheal Fanny	72	7 4 6	ditto	8	4 0 0
ditto	68	1 6 0	Wheal Franco	43	1 10 6
ditto	45	4 14 0	ditto	34	5 1 6
Wheal Maria	39	10 3 6	Great Crinnis	71	7 15 0
ditto	39	10 3 6	Sortridge Consols	54	12 8 6
Phaenix	118	5 3 6	ditto	16	10 8 6
ditto	94	8 9 6	Hawthor	48	5 17 6
ditto	89	6 5 6	West Crinnis	28	7 15 0
ditto	84	7 13 6	ditto	20	6 14 0
ditto	65	8 0 0	Wheal Crebor	41	4 0 0
Hingston Down	75	5 17 0	Devon and Courtney	14	6 19 6
			Pemcorse Consols	11	12 8 6

Notices to Correspondents.

Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be regularly filed on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

PRACTICAL MINING.—Sir: Your correspondent, "J. S. D." (Bristol), requests to be informed "as to the most economical and legitimate lifts for sinking shafts, where a quantity of water may be expected?" and I am glad in having the opportunity of informing "J. S. D." that the plunger-lift was first used for that purpose in Yorkshire as far back as the year 1842, at which time an engine-shaft, 160 yards deep, was sunk by plunger pump, without having had one day's hindrance on its account; after which, two of the same pattern were sent to the late George Stephenson, Esq., Tipton Collieries, Derbyshire, where they were understood to have given every satisfaction. I shall be glad to give your friends any further information on this most important subject, as to economy in mining.—JOHN HENDERSON; Wellington, Burton-on-Trent.

ANGLO-IRISH COAL COMPANY.—Sir: Perhaps some of your correspondents will kindly inform me whether there is any prospect of a dividend in this company; and if so, at what time it may be expected, and at what per cent.? also, its prospects at the present time.—A. C. C.

SORTBIDGE CONSOLS.—Sir: In reference to the article and letter in your Journal of the 17th, I have the pleasure to inform you that the committee, in an interview with the original lessees, have not found the slightest difficulty in obtaining the lease and possession of the ground in question, to the entire satisfaction of all parties concerned.—J. A. JOSEPH, Sec.; 3, Winchester-buildings, March 23.

DRAKE WALLS MINING COMPANY.—Sir: As you are of course aware, a meeting of shareholders in this company was held at the offices of Mr. Hiram Williams on Saturday last, when the chairman informed the meeting that he and Mr. Bettley had been appointed by Mr. Stainby as directors of the company, and that they had since appointed Mr. Berry as another director, and Mr. Hiram Williams as the secretary. Now, Sir, to say nothing else of these appointments, I cannot help thinking that of Mr. Berry and Mr. Williams were somewhat premature. Surely the shareholders, if they had not the power to appoint directors, ought to have been consulted upon the subject; and the fact of Mr. Berry and Mr. Williams having been appointed by the other two, in my humble judgement, something like an attempt to take advantage of the corrupt system which had been so long in practice at Salvador House, before it is finally abolished.—AN OLD SUBSCRIBER; City.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN BANKING AND GOLD IMPORTING COMPANY.—Sir: In your Notice to Correspondents I perceive an answer concerning this company. Being a shareholder, and not asleep, I answer your correspondent by saying I am a registered shareholder, and am desirous of knowing why the deposit money was not returned to those who did not take shares in the new company. I called at the office to enquire what the new company was doing, and if I could have my money returned; they told me I could have scrip in the new company by paying double what I had paid. I asked if they had commenced business; they replied the Government would not grant a charter; but if the Colonial Government thought proper to do so, the Home Government would not oppose, and that the company had sent an agent to endeavour to get a charter in the colony. Have they got the charter yet? and is the company doing business at all? for they do not advertise as other banks, nor does the company appear in your Share List. I think, Mr. Editor, if this is a business undertaking, they should set more like men of business.—W. WATKINS; Bailey-terrace, Pentonville, March 20.

WHEAL WHITELEIGH.—Although a resolution was passed that the next meeting should be held at the office of the secretary in London, it is not intended that all the meetings shall be permanently removed from the mine.

MR. MANAGEMENT OF MINING COMPANIES.—Sir: If anything were wanted to show the impropriety of entrusting the direction of mining affairs to a share-dealing secretary, very ample proof was afforded at the Great Hewas Mine meeting. Contrary to all sense and judgment, one of these gentry there had the impudence to protest, and, by his ill-judged perseverance, to cause an independent report of a committee of enquiry to be published in your Journal on the subject. On the whole, of all others, that "the public have nothing to do with the management of mining companies." That gentleman, in my opinion, has inflicted an injury on his class, that will never be retrieved: he should have been the last man to obtain notoriety by the silly cry of "keep our business to ourselves," and to deprive the mining world of any document from which knowledge could have been gained—he should, in fact, have appeared as the champion of truth; and demanded the publication of all reports and accounts, if only to show that his own business was so carried on that investigation was not feared, but rather courted. Let him, however, now repair the evil inflicted, by showing a modest front, and boldly circulating the document, that the world may judge how far a personal feeling may not have influenced his conduct: such a course will, at least, prove that he was not implicated in the malpractices of his friend.—H. W. B.; Threadneedle-street, March 20.

BRITISH AND COLONIAL SMELTING COMPANY.—Sir: "A pretty kettle of fish they have made of it," as will be found when the committee carry out to the full extent their enquiries. Until then I shall rest without further comment, not adopting the quotation of the chairman—"A man convinced against his will, is of the same opinion still."

If meant from Hudibras, I beg to add the first three words are wrong, and make it absurd.—C. P. C.; Bankside, March 20.

LA FORTUNA MINING COMPANY.—Sir: I beg to call the attention of the shareholders to the charge made for London management; unfortunately, I was unable to attend the last meeting, or I should have held up my hand against some of the extraordinary items in the account. La Fortuna Mine is carried on in the same office as the Llaneros, and yet the monstrous charge of 2000, per annum is made for the secretary. But this is not all; two clerks are set down, one at 750, and the other 375, per annum. No doubt these amounts are only a portion of the salaries paid to them; and, in addition, a further sum is put down for office rent. If a corresponding scale of remuneration is adopted in Spain, the shareholders must not expect the dividends to be very heavy, but it is to be hoped that Mr. Cox, who appears to take great interest in the undertaking, will not lose sight of the necessity of reforming the abuses alluded to.—A SHAREHOLDER; City, March 20.

"A. B. C." would wish to know why there has not been any meeting of the adventurers in Marko Valley Mine for upwards of a twelvemonth?

GREAT WHEAL MARTHA.—Sir: A correspondent in your last week's Journal attacks a "Looker-On" for his remarks on the management of this adventure, and calls on him to retract his words, because Mr. Fuller is secretary to half-a-dozen mines, and has a character to lose. Such a statement is really sheer nonsense; let him show that Mr. Fuller gives satisfaction, which I am rather inclined to think he does not. And if "Looker-On" will obtain and publish a correct report of the proceedings at the late meetings in Wheal Surprise and Augusta Consols, he will enlighten the public, and put a finishing stroke to an attempted—J. O. B.; City, March 22.

"T. G. S." (Baker-street).—Where a mine is legally constituted on the Cost-book System, strictly speaking, the accounts should be made up every two months, and the assets, if any, divided; and were there any liabilities, they should, at the same time, be discharged.

WHEAL CARRON.—Sir: I am an adventurer in this mine, and was much interested in your notice of the proceedings at the meeting on Thursday last; but, Sir, will you allow me to enquire why the report, professing to be that of the committee of management, in whom, as a body, we should have the most implicit confidence, should only have been signed by three out of five of the gentlemen in whom that trust is placed? Strange as it all, however, is the fact, that Mr. Hallett, perhaps the most practical man of the lot, should have taken part in the proceedings, and not to have signed the report. What is the cause? recent events make us suspicious.—B. M.; March 21.

AUSTRALIAN FREEHOLD GOLD COMPANY.—Sir: In your usual impartial manner, you publish the communications from each party connected with this company, as one having nothing to do with the feud, I beg to call your attention to a great injustice inflicted upon me. A meeting was held, when it was agreed to return 6s. per share to the scripholders. Unfortunately, at that time I was travelling, but upon my return home I applied for my money, when I was informed that the committee who were appointed to investigate the affairs of the company on behalf of the share and scripholders, had given notice to the bankers to stop the payment of the cheques. No doubt there may be a sufficient fund in hand to satisfy the rapacity of the lawyers and accountants, who are at this nefarious transaction. It is quite unnecessary for me to make further comment, than to state that the parties who withhold my money, to be squandered in their expenses, received their 6s. per share the next day after the resolution was passed to that effect.—A SHAREHOLDER; Moor-gate-street, March 22.

DEVON UNITED.—Sir: A general meeting of adventurers is to be held on the 30th inst., and as Vice-Chancellor Wood recently granted an order for the company being wound-up, I trust that the shareholders will bestir themselves, and not allow their affairs to be interfered with. There is a lode 18 feet wide in the mine, which the adit is now within 10 fms. of, and there are 3000 tons of mangle in sight. To wind up, therefore, is preposterous.—A SHAREHOLDER; March 22.

BRITISH AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Sir: A meeting of shareholders in this company was held on the 15th inst., and fully reported in the Mining Journal of the 17th, and it is only necessary to refer to the proceedings as an answer to the many columns which have been expended upon it. The opposition had reached to such a height twelve months back, that at the annual meeting it was deemed prudent to have a police force in attendance, and yet upon the last occasion it was clearly proved that the directors had exerted themselves to the utmost of their ability on behalf of the shareholders, and, fortunately, it is to be hoped with every chance of success. The accounts received from Mr. Dyer were of a very encouraging nature, and it is now proposed to send Mr. H. E. Michel to co-operate with him, and as they have still sufficient capital in hand, it is expected that this much-abused company will turn out to be one permanently paying dividends.—H.; Islington.

MINING SHARES IN FRANCE.—Sir: Although I am only paying a short visit to this capital, I cannot refrain from noticing the quotations given for shares in the half dozen English mines which are favoured with a place in the Share List of the Journal des Mines of this day, and remarking that the party giving the prices must have desired them, not from their actual marketable value, but rather from the price he quotes to buy or sell at, as the case may be. They are:—Alfred Consols, 12½; Devon Great Consols, 4000; South Wheat Frances, 2100; Mining Company of London, 177; United Mines, 2000; and Wheal Buller, 1200. Now, Sir, I might have been led to infer that they were badly informed, but for one fact, that the whole of the information contained under the head "Correspondence Anglaise," although not acknowledged, is nothing more than a translation of that published on the previous Saturday by you. I should not have occupied your space with this letter; but considering you the organ of the English mining interest, I think you ought to take notice of such false statements, as they are calculated to do injury to the shareholders in the mines quoted, residing in France, on the one hand, and to deceive purchasers on the other. Trusting this may save your foreign subscribers from being imposed on, and check a re-publication of such quotations, I beg to subscribe myself—AN ENGLISHMAN; Paris, March 15.

"R. S. D." (Truro).—Shareholders should attend the meetings. If living at a distance, they should have some representative present. To an absent proprietor, the greatest safeguard, no doubt, is publicity; and if speculators were not to embark their money in "sug" undertakings, it would soon cease all meetings to be open.

FOREIGN POSTAGE.—"T." (Hyères), and "W. S. S." (Guimperi).—The Secretary of the General Post-office, London, informs us that English newspapers are chargeable with a postage of 4 cents, on delivery in Paris; but that he is not able to state whether the charge is universal in the provincial towns of France, and refers us to the French Post-office for the information required. We have made the necessary enquiries, and shall give the result as soon as possible.

SHARE-DEALING SECRETARIES.—Sir: I entirely approve of the letter in your last Journal, signed "L." (Old Broad-street), and, as a neighbour, I cordially join with him in recommending every shareholder, "in country or in town," not to embark any of their spare capital in a mining or other speculation, wherein the secretary, or any agent of the concern, is allowed to job or traffic in shares. It is a system fraught with danger to the proprietary, and ought to be reprobated. Of late it has more increased than otherwise; and I advise every one to ask to see the share-book, and where they find the secretary's account, with shares transferred to and from him, put an end to it.—DIORIGENS; Old Broad-street, March 20.

WHEAL SURPRISE.—The remarks of "J. T." respecting the buyer and seller of the engine can only appear with the writer's name attached.

CASTLE DINAS MINES.—Sir: Can any of your readers give me any information of what is doing at the above mines? I have repeatedly written to the secretary, requesting to be informed, but he has not replied to one of my enquiries, and I have in vain looked for a long time in your Journal for a report of the progress of the mines. I cannot, therefore, but imagine there must be gross mismanagement in the concern.—B. H.; Winchester, March 22.

GREAT CRIBNIN.—Sir: It is a long time since the last general meeting of shareholders was held at the London Tavern, when a committee was appointed to explore into the extraordinary doings of the directors, and Messrs. Dado, Manuel, and others, by appropriating to themselves a large portion of the shares, and not paying a farthing upon them, and yet showing a sufficient balance to cover the March dividend, made out of capital account, although there was not enough at the bankers to pay the current costs. Knowing all this, and that a public accountant was nominated to furnish a true statement, my friends and self (who wished a mining accountant to be employed in preference, but were overruled) now ask, through your medium, how much longer the shareholders are to be kept in suspense? A mining accountant would have completed the task in a less number of hours than a public one will take weeks. And mark the end; they will still have to call one in before the mystery is elucidated. It has been a strange web of deception from the date of the prospectus, as "Argus" (of Truro) told us at the time, and but for his assertion that the set was a good one, we should have got rid of our interest. What would he advise us now to do, under all the circumstances?—S. and W.

NORTH DOWNS MINES.—Sir: In reference to the remarks in last week's Journal, on the sale of North Downs shares, at Garraway's, on the 14th inst., I beg to state that it was not a bona fide sale, the shares having been bought in.—W. M. NICHOLSON; 57, Old Broad-street, March 20.

GREAT HEWAS.—Sir: Having seen several letters in your Journal complaining of Mr. Murchison's interference in preventing the publication of the committee of investigation's report, I think it only just to Mr. Murchison to say, from facts within my knowledge, that the motives which induced him to adopt the course he did were not founded on any objection of his to publicity, but, during the discussion of the report, it had been hinted that publicity would probably prevent the large defalcation of the late secretary being made good by his friends, and which had, during the meeting, been more than hinted at as probable; and Mr. Murchison's idea was, that if the report appeared in your Journal, the friends of the late secretary would not then be so ready to afford the assistance required. This explanation is only an act of justice to Mr. Murchison, after what has appeared in your Journal.—CHARLES HANCOCK; 20, Tokenhouse-yard.

CWMBREIAN MINES.—We cannot open our columns to further discussion on this unhappy affair: any communication, therefore, "N. R.," or his friends similarly situated, may wish to address to Mr. J. D. Brunton, or others concerned, must reach them through some other means. "N. R." had, perhaps, better apply to his solicitor.

CHIVERTON MINES.—Sir: "C.," in the Journal of the 17th inst., seeks information respecting the proceeds of an auction at these concerns. In May last, the General Mining Company for Ireland had to pay the amount of a very mystical bargain managed there, to the tune of nearly 8000, for an old broken axle, with its worn-out stamps, and a small single-acting engine; the entire lot was not worth half the alleged price. So many versions are given about the sale "before the auction," and after the auction, that perhaps the shareholders, if any ever existed, did not get all these proceeds, for it is related that a small family party managed to transport the hardware, at two prices, for sake of—A BONUS; March 23.

AGUSTA CONSOLS MINES.—This company has been wound-up, and the reason that the call fell heavy on some of the shareholders was from the fact of certain parties transferring their shares into fictitious names. We are informed that the secretary waived his claim, amounting to 1200, and the only account now outstanding is 71.

BRITISH AUSTRALIAN GOLD.—Sir: The accounts just arrived by the Argos announce the total failure of Mr. Dyer, and his inability to continue the experiments for want of further capital; indeed, it is reported that the workmen have been unpaid—so that the money received would appear to have been applied to purposes foreign to the undertaking, and it almost seems that the air in Australia is so tainted as to be infectious. The only hope of "the house" is now in Michel's plan, which it is very desirable should be carried out without further loss of time. It will be necessary, however, to convene another meeting of scripholders to consult them as to whether they will wind-up, and divide the present assets of 15, 6d., or go on. I am decidedly for the latter alternative, and trust the majority will be of my opinion. We cannot bind the minority, but must allow them to receive back the exact amount, *pro rata*, per share to which they may be entitled, and then I think there will be no difficulty in finding others to take up at the same figure the shares they have relinquished.—H. GURDALLA; March 23.

We have particularly to request that subscribers and others, in paying accounts, will send cheques or post-office orders, as postage-stamps cannot be received.

THE MINING JOURNAL Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, MARCH 24, 1855.

Two important lectures have been recently delivered at the Mechanics Institution in Manchester, by Mr. WILLIAM FAIRBAIRN, C.E., F.R.S., and on both occasions the Lord Bishop of the district, as president, was in the chair. The subjects selected by Mr. FAIRBAIRN were, for the first lecture, "Steam, its properties and application to the useful and industrial arts," for the second, "The strength and form of vessels calculated to ensure safety, and resist the elastic force of steam; the relative proportion of fuel to furnace surface in boilers, and the relative value of high and low steam." The first lecture was in a great degree introductory, and explanatory of the production of steam. When heat is applied to the top of a vessel, the water within it evaporates and wastes away, but when applied to the bottom and sides, the particles of water in contact with it form into globules, which, being of greatly reduced specific gravity, ascend until the colder stratum on the upper surface deprives them of their heat, and destroys that elasticity which was necessary for their ascent. The distances they reached before collapsing depended upon the temperature of the fluid, but they continued to rise until the temperature reached 212°, when the commotion became general, and boiling ensued. Heat, from its want of ponderosity, was highly elastic, and when enclosed in films of water, in the form of globules, its specific gravity was many thousand times less than that of water. Steam was evaporated, and water boiled at different temperatures, according to the weight of the atmosphere; when the barometer stood at 30 in., water boiled at 212°; but as it fell, the water boiled at a lower temperature; at 28 in. it boiled at 208°; and upon the plains of Quito, where the air was attenuated, and the barometer stood at 21 in., it boiled at 195°. There was a wide difference between steam generated in an open vessel and in a closed one; while, in the first, the temperature never exceeded 212°, in the latter the temperature, as well as the density, elasticity, &c., may be carried to any extent consistent with the safety or strength of the vessel. The lecturer recommended that this condition should never be lost sight of, as the security of life and property not unfrequently depended upon the extent of knowledge of the densities and other properties of steam.

If the temperature of the furnace and the steam, or evaporation part of the water in the boiler, are so nearly adjusted as to be exactly in accordance with the density and quality of the steam produced, there would be throughout the whole process the required equivalents of quantities as regarded temperature, density, and elasticity; but increase or stop the supply of heat, or increase or diminish the extraction of steam generated, and immediately the relations of demand and supply which previously existed were changed. Although the relative quantity of heat and density might be retained, there was, nevertheless, a total change in the force and elasticity of the steam, when compared to that uniformity of the process which maintains a true balance between the expenditure and supply; the interception of any one of these processes was a matter of the utmost importance, and often resulted in accident. The Count de PAMBOUR, in his *Practical Treatise on the Steam-engine*, states that, "when the steam, after having been formed in a boiler, remains in contact with the generating water, it is observed that the same temperature corresponds invariably with the same pressure, and *vice versa*."—This being the case, it is increasing to increase the temperature without the pressure and density increasing at the same time; and it is equally impossible to increase its density or its pressure without increasing its temperature." Compression, said Mr. FAIRBAIRN, of a volume of steam into a small space, would increase its temperature in the ratio of its density, without the infusion of additional increments of heat; on the same principle that a volume of air could be made red hot by severe compression. The economy of heat was a question of great importance to every one connected with the production and use of steam, and he could not sufficiently impress upon the minds of engineers, operative and professional, the necessity of instituting a careful inspection into all the requirements of clothing pipes and boilers to prevent condensation, and the disengagement of that subtle fluid, heat; for, under all circumstances, special care should be paid to its retention, whether latent or otherwise, in contact with the steam, and that—by carefully clothing the exterior surface of pipes and boilers exposed to the atmosphere. It was further desirable to use the surplus heat

to increase the temperature of the water from the feed-pump, by inclosing those pipes also in the flues, or by exposing a series of pipes to the action of the heated currents, as they pass from the boiler to the chimney; a method already adopted successfully by the apparatus of Mr. SMITH, of Oldham. It was now generally acknowledged that a considerable saving was effected by the expansive action of steam, independent of what was accomplished by the improved methods recommended for the generation and maintenance of the temperature and density of the steam in the boiler, and in its passage to the engine. To effect this with increased economy, high steam must be used and applied with a sound discretion, not only as a principle of economic working, but as a measure of safety, both as regarded its consumption, the strength of the boiler, and the different organic parts of the engine exposed to its influences.

In introducing the subject of his second lecture, Mr. FAIRBAIRN, after some important details, observed that we must look forward to a greatly increased, instead of a reduced pressure of steam. So convinced was he of the advantages of high steam worked expansively, that he urged preparation for greatly increased progress; for it must be obvious that steam generated under pressure, compressed into one-fifth or one-sixth the space it had previously occupied, and again applied to an engine of little more than one-tenth the bulk, must be a great desideratum in the appliances of steam. The force applied to one of our largest locomotive engines, travelling with a train at the rate of 45 miles an hour, exceeded 700-horse power; and there was no reason why factories should not be driven, and the largest ships propelled, by such engines, with greatly increased economy, by well-directed condensation. He announced that he and another gentleman had been in communication with the Admiralty, with respect to the introduction of high-pressure steam, upon the same principle as used on railroads, and he was satisfied that, if properly applied, it would effect an important saving in steam navigation. The cylindrical, or spherical form, was the most eligible and the strongest, in which iron plates could resist internal pressure, and the deduction for loss of strength on account of rivetted joints, and the position of the plates, was about 30 per cent. for the double rivetted joints, and 44 for the single ones. Calling the plates 100, the strength were in the rates of 100, 70, and 56, and he found that 34,000 lbs. to the square inch was the ultimate strength of boilers having their joints crossed and soundly rivetted. Mr. FAIRBAIRN then detailed at length the results of a series of experiments made on the occasion of the bursting of a boiler at Longsight, which, our space will not permit us to give at length; but they showed that rivetting added nearly 14 per cent. to the strength which the simple screw afforded. These experiments were conducted at a temperature not exceeding 60° of Fahrenheit; those made on the effects of temperature on cast-iron did not indicate much loss of strength up to a temperature of 600°, and he concluded that the resisting stays and plates of locomotive boilers were not seriously affected by the increased temperature to which they were subjected in a regular course of working.

There was as yet no fixed rule as to the proportion of the dimension of the grate bars to that of the surface of the boiler exposed to the action of heat, and a series of well-conducted experiments on these points was much wanted, to determine also the quantity of heat absorbed by the surfaces surrounding the furnace, and at different distances, as these surfaces receded from the immediate source of heat. Stationary boilers received every description of treatment, in all its gradations from slow to active combustion, the marine engine admitted of no alternative; the combustion must be active, in consequence of the small space allotted to the boiler; excited combustion applied, however, almost exclusively to locomotive engines. The boiler was similar to the multi-tubular, but while in the one the fire was supplied with oxygen by the rarified draught of chimney, in the other it was excited with much greater intensity by the blast of the steam passing from the cylinders at great velocity into the chimney. At high speed, such an engine has all the properties of the blowpipe, in exciting and maintaining an intensity of heat in the furnace almost sufficient to melt the hardest metals, producing a white heat, which would soon destroy the fire-box, were it not for the great difference between its temperature and the water in the boiler, which seldom or ever exceeded 400°, that of the furnace being probably as high as from 1600° to 2000°. One marked difference between locomotive and other boilers was, that time was of more importance; as the locomotive would raise in twenty: the former requiring 15 square feet of fire-bars, and the latter 300 square feet, being in the proportion of 1 to 20.

Mr. FAIRBAIRN declared that this branch of the subject deserved careful investigation, and that we might reasonably hope to gain advantage from a principle as yet only partially developed. Working steam expansively was one of the most important subjects to which the engineer could direct his attention; the difference between high and low steam was the measure of elasticity and temperature, when taken at the extremes at which it is worked, from 10 lbs. to 150 lbs. on the square inch.

The distinguished lecturer concluded by quoting the language of an eminent writer, who, in speaking of the steam-engine, observed:—"It is stupendous alike for its force and flexibility, for the prodigious power which it can exercise, and the ease, precision, and ductility with which it can be varied, distributed, and applied. The trunk of the elephant, that can pick up a pin or rend an oak, is nothing to it. It can engrave a seal or crush masses of obdurate metal like wax before it; draw out without breaking a thread as fine as gossamer, and lift a ship of war like a bauble in the air. It can embroider, forge anchors, cut steel into ribands, and impel loaded vessels against the fury of the waves." It could, observed Mr. FAIRBAIRN, do all this, and more, since the eulogium quoted was pronounced; and he looked forward to the time, when, what still seemed impossibilities still greater, would be effected in the action of the steam-engine, and in the use of steam.

The recent verdict of "Accidental Death" returned by the jury at the inquest held at Yorkley, on the bodies of C. JAMES and W. DENNING, a man and a lad, who were killed in the Park End Colliery, is not likely to alter our often-expressed opinion of the coroner system in the administration of the law. It appeared that there were nine men in the doubles, waiting to ascend; they called out, and no person answering, JAMES, one of the victims, got on to the cross-bar, and shook the guide-chain. He had scarcely done so when the chain fell down the shaft, striking and stunning DENNING, seriously injuring JAMES, and also a boy. The men had no other means of making persons hear at the top of the pit, except by calling. The guide-chain had been taken out for repair, and put back again without being properly repaired. It did not appear that there was any person whose duty it was to look after the guide-chains, and they had been known in the deep pit to break several times. One of the engineers at the colliery proved that the old guide-chain had been replaced at Christmas by a new one, except within about 10 or 15 yards of the top, and that it was a portion of the old chain that broke. Another of the witnesses, who worked in the pit, distinctly attributed the casualty to negligence, in not looking after the chains, or seeing them repaired.

Mr. HERBERT MACKWORTH, the very intelligent Government Inspector of Mines, deposed that he had examined the guide-chains; that they were not of the best make externally; that the quality of the iron in them seemed to be unequal—some of it was very much crystallised, and flaws could be detected. These causes might not have been sufficient to produce the accident, but, as the chains were stated to have been broken several times, and to have fallen down into the pit, they must have been very much strained, and otherwise injured, by the falls. He did not think that the shaking of the chain at the bottom by JAMES the deceased, when not screwed down, could have broken it, unless it had been in a very bad state. He considered that the accident had entirely arisen from not providing proper materials, and from the want of ordinary care and attention to the safety of the men, and everything showed the greatest neglect on the part of persons whom he named. There was a want of proper precaution in respect of the signals, there not being a wire, or other similar proper means of communication between the bottom and the top of the pit. Another precaution very common in collieries, which might, at least, have mitigated the unhappy results of the present occurrence was, the providing a cover, or bonnet for the men, who ascend and descend the shafts. This was omitted, and he could not comment too strongly on the want of printed rules, without which collieries cannot be carried on safely. With this evidence uncontradicted, in the absence of proper precautions, and of all mitigating circumstances, on what principle is the verdict in this case to be sustained?

Mr. MACKWORTH is far too intelligent a public officer not fully to understand the legal qualifications of coroners in general, and the too common constitution of the juries, usually selected to screen from due punishment parties guilty of delinquencies in colliery mismanagement. Can Mr. MACKWORTH, in the discharge of his public duty, be satisfied with

this result; or does he not consider it a case which ought to undergo a more full investigation before a more competent tribunal?

Mr. MACKWORTH is aware that the finding of a coroner's jury does not exclude him from presenting a bill of indictment for the same offence to the grand jury at the assizes. It cannot be forgotten in this case, that if the chain had broken while the men were ascending, nine lives might have been sacrificed instead of two; their accidental escape furnishes no mitigation of the offence, but, on the contrary, calls more loudly for an example. While those to whom the superintendence of collieries is committed are criminally liable for the consequence of wilful misfeasance, or malfeasance, the proprietors ought to remember that they are responsible to answer in damages to the families of those who lose their lives by the neglect of the persons they employ. We have repeatedly called attention to the state of the law, as settled by the House of Lords in the last session, that colliery proprietors are bound to use and adopt all proper and necessary precautions to insure the safety of the men, and in default to answer by their pockets for the consequences.

Our remarks of last week, about the GENERAL STEAM SHIPPING COMPANY, have not been without their effect, if we correctly understand the meaning of two notices addressed to the shareholders by Mr. J. U. ELLIS, chairman to the board of directors, and by Mr. TAYLOR, who acts as honorary secretary to a self-constituted committee, chiefly composed of friends to the board; and seeing that the MINING JOURNAL, alone, called public attention to the most dangerous of the objects proposed by the new movement, now apparently abandoned, we may fairly claim credit for having to that extent, at least, protected the interests of the entire proprietary.

Mr. TAYLOR's latest version of what is intended to be proposed, by those he represents, at the general meeting to be held on Tuesday next, is certainly the least doubtful of the two; since it gives up, entirely, the previously declared object of suspending or rescinding the clauses in the Deed of Settlement referred to, and even leaves out the proposition of perpetuating the power of the present board. At the same time, the latter may still be brought forward, by a side wind, and ought, therefore, to be particularly guarded against by the shareholders. Mr. J. U. ELLIS, however, while evincing the official disquietude caused by our observations of last week, confines himself to a disclaimer of any association in the new movement with Mr. TAYLOR's requisitionists, so singularly made as clearly to affirm what he attempts to deny. In the first paragraph of his notice he declares that neither himself nor any of his colleagues of the board, individually or collectively, can be said to be connected with those requisitionists; yet, in the second paragraph, he as distinctly states that three of the present members of the board have consented to become candidates for re-election, by desire of the very requisitionists with whom he had already repudiated all connection, both for himself and his brother directors! We are not much surprised at a discrepancy of that kind on the part of a gentleman (albeit chairman of a board of directors) who could for a moment entertain the wish of any number of requisitionists, to do any act that could carry the duties of his office beyond the 4th of April, after having (among several other assurances of the same kind) said at a public meeting of the company, relative to the vacation of seats at the board, on or before that day—"I have to state, distinctly, that no vote on the part of the proprietors, whatever it was, would induce myself to remain in the chair, or on the board of this company. I believe I am speaking, also, the feelings of my brother directors."

At the meeting of shareholders, held at the London Tavern, yesterday (of which we give a report elsewhere), it was very properly resolved to bring the matter at issue, between the undoubted majority of proprietors and the directors, by calling upon the latter to convene a general meeting of the company, for the 4th of April, for the purpose of proceeding with the election of nine directors out of the fifteen candidates, duly qualified, who are now legally before the shareholders as claimants for their suffrages; and we really cannot see upon what grounds the board can refuse to do so. They cannot surely possess such an emergent buoyancy as may, at will, counterbalance their extraordinary "slacrity of sinking" in commercial estimation? Any other nine directors of any other company, who had pledged themselves to a financial statement, proved by competent professional authorities to be wrong by upwards of 200,000*l.*, would have been glad to escape immediately from the chance of further reproof. As would any similar number of persons so in office who were obliged tacitly to admit that they had utterly failed in every trading line they had attempted to establish. But not so, perhaps, think the doughty nine of the General Steam Shipping Company; they may have discovered some compensating medium for all that obloquy, and more. To them contumely may be made pleasant by thoughts and impressions, by fancies or feelings, if nothing more tangible, that are altogether beyond our comprehension. More of less of official martyrdom may be as agreeable to them as it would be repugnant to us. And they may not terminate the struggle until they have descended to the lowest level of official value in which they can be held by their fellow-shareholders.

Condemning thus the vacillation, to say the least of it, of the directors, we are equally dissatisfied with the conduct of those who seek, through the meeting of Tuesday next, to supersede the rights and privileges of their fellow-shareholders, and to aggregate in the hands of an irresponsible committee the power of selecting, and virtually appointing, the new board of directors. Unseemly enough would have been such a proposition if it had been made in January last, before any steps had been taken to obtain candidates to support their laudable ambition for office; but it is absolutely insulting so to attempt in March, after all the requisite legal and customary steps for the candidature had been effected in February; to say nothing of the gross inconsistency of these would-be contrivers of the law, and usurpers of the franchise of their fellow-shareholders, in putting up themselves three, if not four, of the existing candidates; although they pretend that none should be proposed unless through the medium of an (as yet) unnamed committee!

Who, of the commercial men, the bankers, the merchants of the City of London, will be found supporting their extravagancies and injustices on Tuesday, we cannot pretend to say. None, we should hope, for the credit of the City. But not a single honest opponent of such trickery should be absent on such occasion. Every shareholder should make it his business to attend, to aid in the defeat of the faction, and assist in the preservation of his own property.

From all reports that have come to hand, it would appear that the principal causes which have retarded several of the gold mining companies from making returns during the past season is mainly to be attributed to a deficiency in the supply of water. At the close of last summer several of these associations held out hopes that so soon as the rainy season arrived they would be enabled to make continuous returns, and their shareholders would thus be rewarded for the exemplary patience they had exercised; these anticipations, however, owing to the long and continued drought, have unfortunately not been realised, and consequently the expenses have been daily augmenting, without any corresponding result. It is true that the late season has been of unusual occurrence, and that not only mines, but all other interests of the states have suffered, owing to the absence of that necessary element—water. In some parts where companies for supplying water have been established, this difficulty has been obviated, even although the parties purchasing it have had to do so at the exorbitant rate of \$1 an inch. As it clearly appears that many companies are solely dependent upon the rainy season, and as the inconsistency of the elements is as proverbial in California as here, it becomes a matter of deep and grave consideration with all concerned in gold mining operations in that country, whether some means should not be devised by which they could render themselves independent of a supply which is so precarious.

In every place where water can be obtained it is cheerfully paid for, and we find at the placer diggings, in the vicinity of Camptownville, the average depth of dirt washed at the different localities is about 45 feet. W. YOUNG's claim, at Young's Gold Hill, has paid as high as 120*¢* per week above all expenses, paying 75 cents for water, and 4*¢* per day for labour, and has never paid less than 80*¢* per week above all expenses. Two men work this claim with one pipe, conveying 16 in. of water. COWAN and Co., at Camptownville, one pipe, average pay per week for two months, 200*¢*; WOLLEY and Co., 172*¢*; BARKER and NEWTON, three men, 80*¢*; STEVENSON and Co., three men, 60*¢*; WOOD and Co., three men, 60*¢*; EASTMAN and Co., Galena-hill, 160*¢*; claims on Railroad-hill have paid as high as 250*¢* per day.

At the North Fork Canal many miners are now congregated, and it has been stated, by competent authorities, that much of the auriferous ground lying in this region would have been, for years unproductive had it not been for this canal; and it seems the construction of canals at the same time is of vital importance to the country, as one of the means of

discovering gold deposits, which, if it had not been for their prosecution, would, in all probability, have been neglected. Companies have been formed in Marysville, Sacramento, and several other localities, for the purpose of supplying the mines with water; and in various places where this is supposed not to be available, Artesian wells are to be sunk. A company has likewise obtained a charter from the State for the purpose of bringing water from the Truckee Lake, which is situated at the summit of the Sierra Nevada range; this would pass by Jackson's Ranch; at the reservoir at Nehaska, a branch would run to Minnesota. Downville Ledge, on the other side, would likewise be supplied; Camptownville is on the line, as well as Brown's Valley, the present termination of the canal being fixed at Marysville. The distance will be about 94 miles, and by canalling and fluming, together with effecting a junction with the middle fork of the Yuba River, it is conjectured that all the rich and extensive placer diggings between the North and Middle Yubas will be rendered available. The capital of this company is fixed at 400,000*¢*; and at present, in the districts the miners are dependent for a supply of water on the melting of the snow that falls in the winter season. Without entering into the merits of this or any of the numerous companies which are being formed for the purpose of supplying water to the miners in California, it must be obvious to all that there is a great field for enterprise and the judicious employment of capital. At the Hanging Rock diggings, in Australia, a party of Americans erected reservoirs and conduits for some miles, at an expense of 300*¢*; from the diggers in its course, whom they supplied with water, they received a yearly rent of 1200*¢*.

The public cannot now profess the same ignorance of California as they did at the period of the gold mining mania; and there is no question, when a favourable turn takes place in the money market, that several enterprises of this nature will be brought before them. Their object is legitimate, and according to all received accounts likely to be profitable to those who invest their capital in them. Let those speculating remember the disputed lease question, and before embarking their money ascertain that the parties they are about to be connected with are men of standing, and who possess a legal right to the claims they put forward. Had this been the case with the gold companies, many of the failures and deplorable disclosures would not have taken place: if in this instance due discretion is not exercised, both as regards men and localities, it will but be a repetition of that disgraceful era which brought many of the gold conceptions into existence.

In our Journal of the 2d December last, we submitted to our readers a detail of the numerous and extraordinary products of coal, which Professor CRACE CALVERT described in an admirable paper at the Society of Arts. Amongst the remarkable substances formed by the distillation of coal, there is none which has attracted more notice than that known as paraffine oil, now so extensively in use, and which is largely obtained from coal by a peculiar process of distillation, and at a very low cost. Paraffine oil may be considered olefant gas in a liquid state, and a young French chemist, of the name of BRETHERTON, in recent numbers of the *Comptes Rendus*, and of the *Gazette de Chimie*, publicly announces a very startling discovery,—that he has succeeded in producing alcohol, or pure spirit, from olefant gas. According to his statement of the results of his experiments, when olefant gas is shaken violently in a glass vessel, with sulphuric acid and metallic mercury, for a considerable time, it is absorbed; on adding water and distilling the mixture, alcohol is said to pass over, which on examination proved to be simple spirit of wine. It matters not from what substance the olefant gas is obtained, whether from alcohol or from coal gas, the result is the same—a pure alcoholic spirit. Hitherto spirits have been uniformly obtained from vegetable substances, by the distillation of the produce of vinous fermentation; and if alcohol can hereafter be cheaply obtained from the distillation of coal, it will certainly constitute one of the most striking scientific miracles of the age. Whatever the economic value of this singular discovery may prove, and we confess our anticipations are not very sanguine, even its experimental achievement in the laboratory furnishes another striking instance of the triumph of inductive science and chemical art.

In the City Article of the *Times* of Thursday, allusion is made to the failure of Mr. G. T. BRAINE, whose stoppage in the East India trade was announced on the 28th of February. According to a statement exhibited at the meeting of creditors, it appears that the amount of liabilities is about 306,000*¢*, of which 230,000*¢* is secured to a certain portion of creditors, leaving 76,000*¢* to the other portion, not so fortunately situated, and, we regret to add, with very few assets to meet this deficiency. It is, moreover, stated in the same paragraph, that it also appeared that the chief losses incurred had been in connection with mining, and other speculations. What these other speculations were is not stated, but we have reason to believe that Mr. BRAINE's losses in British mining concerns are not of moment—indeed, we should imagine that his mining account in this country was beneficially protected by the official remuneration, and benefits arising from his position as chairman to the board of the Kenmare and West Cork Mining Company of Ireland; and that neither in that, nor in the subsequent introduction of the Coosheen Mine, did he sustain any loss deserving of such special notice as that accorded by the *Times*. We lament at all times the misfortunes of respectable individuals of high commercial standing, and should, possibly, not have commented on the subject; but, as the representative of the mining interest, we feel it our duty to take exception to the practice which has lately prevailed of laying to the charge of mining enterprise the unfortunate issue of extraneous undertakings, and against which we must enter our protest. We have reason to believe that, in divers instances, British Mining has been the means of rescuing tottering establishments from an impending unenviable fate; and it is not long since that we were assured that Mr. BRAINE was possessed of a considerable interest in a copper mine in America, which was held for sale at one million sterling, and represented as producing 1500 tons of copper ore, valued at 30*¢* per ton—yielding a net profit of 30,000*¢* per month. Now, although this picture may be somewhat overcharged, we cannot conclude that Mr. BRAINE has any cause, under such circumstances, to tax Mining with his losses; on the contrary, we have been credibly informed that his difficulties arose from the excessive advances granted on produce in India and China, which, probably, have merged into the securities held by the protected creditors.

The "Mysteries of Salvador House" continue to develop themselves with singular perspicuity, and to increase in seriousness as the enquiries proceed. Painful as the reflection may be, it is now perfectly clear that the late manager of this establishment, throughout the whole of his transactions in connection with the numerous undertakings under his control, has violated every principle of integrity, and every trust. This may, possibly, be considered a strong expression of opinion; but, looking at the startling facts which have been elicited, and which we shall venture, in the present article, to lay before our readers, we believe that every true friend to mining enterprise will fully concur in the justice of our remarks. First, let us glance at the proceedings of the TINCROFT meeting. Here the chairman announced that there was due to the company a sum of 800*¢*. More than was represented in the statement of assets and liabilities with which the new directors had been furnished; the books were 12 months in arrears, and the former directors appeared to have confided all to the late manager. No doubt; and other directors, equally obsequious—juggled by the plausibility, the *suaviter in modo*, of the late manager—placed the same unlimited confidence in his integrity, and have been in like manner deceived. This company, like the Tamar, has been saved from destruction through the unflinching and praiseworthy exertions of Mr. HADOW, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. J. FIELD, and others, forming the committee of investigation. The rules were similar to those which governed the Tamar, and were, of course, framed for the same illegitimate purpose—that of placing the control of the company's affairs entirely in the hands of the directors, who, when once appointed, could only be removed by a dissolution of the company: the shareholders were, consequently, powerless. However, this deplorable state of things will soon be altered, and bye-laws will be framed, by which the proprietary will be constituted the governing body.

We will now refer to some of the leading facts disclosed at the MENDIX HILLS meeting, on the 16th inst. At this meeting, it was proved that the late manager had misappropriated 2000*¢* in cash, and that he got three bills discounted, amounting in the aggregate to nearly 1700*¢*, which he also applied to his own purpose. These facts had come out at a previous meeting, and an active committee, consisting of Mr. WEBB (a barrister), Mr. MUNDAY, and Mr. WOOD, having been appointed, the position of the company, as well as that of the manager, was fully considered. Mr. WEBB observed, that the late manager's conduct might be looked upon in two ways—first, he might be treated as a debtor; and then, his conduct assumed a much more serious aspect. The latter was a point of

considerable delicacy; but the committee felt that they had but one alternative, and that was to lay a case before some gentleman of eminence at the criminal bar. A case was accordingly prepared, and they deemed it advisable, in stating it, that no name should transpire. The transactions were, therefore, set forth as between A and B—A being the treasurer, and a shareholder, and B the public company. The learned counsel to whom the case was submitted expressed his opinion very strongly and clearly, that it was a case of felony with regard to the cash, and that there was sufficient ground for a charge of embezzlement with regard to the bills.

It was remarked, that for some reason or other, Mr. STAINSBY had not, during the last 12 months, received his salary as treasurer, and some doubt was expressed whether, under such circumstances, criminal proceedings could be sustained.

Mr. WEBB said, the fact alluded to had certainly been overlooked, but the law was quite clear on the point: if a servant, whether paid or unpaid, committed a felony, he was equally liable in the eye of the law. It must, however, be manifest that the committee were in considerable difficulty; for had they given Mr. STAINSBY into custody, they would have lost the right to prove against his estate; and if they treated the case civilly, they would lose their right to proceedings of a criminal nature. With reference to the balance-sheet which the late manager had presented to the Court of Bankruptcy, it disclosed liabilities amounting to 48,000*¢*, while the assets were stated to be 30,000*¢*; but, with regard to the latter, a great deal would, of course, depend upon the value of the shares in the market; while the liabilities would be subject to increase—in fact, they had already discovered one instance in which a sum of money, entered as having been paid to the lord of a mine, had not been received; and there might be other debts of a similar kind. Although the late manager had treated every one badly, there was no one, perhaps, that he had more grossly deceived than their excellent chairman, Mr. BARKWELL, who, on the 17th of January, finding he could not get the usual cheque from the manager for the disbursement of wages, advanced the money himself, on behalf of the company, to no less a number than 400 persons, and had continued to advance it ever since. As to his obtaining protection under the Debtor and Creditor Arrangement Act, there does not appear to be the remotest chance—he must have recourse to bankruptcy: such is the opinion of at least nine-tenths of his creditors.

Mr. MUNDAY urged the shareholders to press for their rights, as the only means by which they would obtain a portion of the ready money which the manager had "sacked." He mentioned one instance in which the late manager had compounded with a company, to whom he had paid 1800*¢*, since his application to the Court of Bankruptcy. As for the estate, he did not believe it would realise 3000*¢*. The CHAIRMAN said the late manager had assured him that, with ordinary care, he had enough to pay everybody five times over.

It will, no doubt, be perfectly fresh in the recollection of shareholders that a dividend of 7*¢* 6d. per share was declared in December last, and made payable in the present month. It is tolerably clear, therefore, that at that meeting either bankruptcy or something else was contemplated: for, as we have already seen, the manager has kept the whole of the cash, and left the company in a bankrupt state. With regard to the rules, the same insuperable difficulties were imported into them as appeared in those already referred to, and he (the chairman) assured the meeting that had he been aware of the existence of such difficulties he would have taken no part in the direction, nor would he have become a shareholder. Under the present rules the directors could make calls to any extent without the consent of the shareholders, who were, in every respect, completely at the mercy of the directors. These inconsistencies will, however, be removed by amended rules.

The CHAIRMAN said they were now beginning to smelt again, and they would shortly be able to dispose of some lead. He had always been opposed to calls, and he hoped they would be able to go on without them; the works should not stop, for he would find the money himself.

Mr. KING said he was prepared to have made the same offer. The appointment of Messrs. WEBB, MUNDAY, and WOOD having been confirmed, the meeting was adjourned to the 18th of April.

It has often been remarked that mining enterprise would be considerably improved by an infusion of new blood. And, how completely have recent events justified the assertion; but, as there are yet some traces of poison left, we strongly urge shareholders to lose no time in administering an effectual antidote. When mining companies are once brought into a healthy state, and there is every probability that they will be at no distant period, they will then be extensively patronised by wealth and intelligence. To effect so desirable a change is a task of no very great difficulty; the first step towards it is the selection of an intelligent and energetic committee. But to appoint gentlemen to the office merely because they hold a large number of shares, is the greatest fallacy that can be conceived. It was to the overwhelming power and influence thus concentrated in the manager and committees of Salvador House that the great body of shareholders were obliged to succumb—it was by these means that the manager so long maintained his unenviable position. We would not impute irregularities to the gentlemen who, in most instances, allowed themselves to be elected committeemen; for we are perfectly satisfied that many of them were deceived, although it may not be quite so clear whether, on the part of others, there was not a voluntary blindness. The controlling power should be vested in the general body, and it is absurd and dangerous to place it in the hands of the few. We intreat of shareholders to look to this.

A meeting of shareholders in the DRAKE WALLS MINING COMPANY was convened for Saturday last, and as this is another off-shoot from the Salvador House nursery, we regret to find that the proceedings were conducted in an extremely loose and irregular manner. The chairman commenced with an expression of sorrow that the meeting had not selected some one more efficient than himself to preside, for he was unaccustomed to present himself to public meetings. He informed the meeting that great irregularities had taken place where the mine had been conducted, and it had been found impossible to get only a three months' account. The shareholders had not only been kept out of dividends, but the late manager had kept their funds. [The amount was not stated.] They appeared to have a little money in hand, [no amount was mentioned], and an ore bill due, which was a very different state of things to what they had been led to believe in the beginning of February. Mr. STAINSBY had appointed him (the chairman) and Mr. BETTLEY as the committee, and they had since appointed a third—namely, Mr. BERRY. Now we have every confidence in the respectability of these gentlemen; but, of their competency to conduct the affairs of an important undertaking, such as Drake Walls, we unhesitatingly express our misgivings. We say not this offensively or reproachfully.

First, with regard to the chairman; it is hardly possible to conceive anything more distressing than the infirmity of temper which he exhibited. It seems that he entirely lost sight of his position—the novelty of which might possibly have bewildered him—and treated those who ventured to differ from him as unfriendly opponents, rather than as shareholders having an equal right with himself to give expression to their views, and whose opinions were entitled to consideration and respect. Nor was this all; the imperative tone in which he called upon the secretary to read louder, and the indignant manner in which he desired Mr. BERRY (one of his co-directors), while reading certain minutes, not to enter into discussion or explanation, but to read! read! not only elicited a general titter, but showed an utter want of that command of temper which is indispensable in those who sit in judgment, or, in other words, occupy the chair. Such an ebullition of feeling was far from being calculated to impress the meeting with a very high opinion of the efficiency of those into whose hands the management of the company's affairs had been consigned by the late manager. Poor Mr. BERRY, although a very respectable gentleman, and a fluent and frequent speaker, has not, we fear, a sufficient amount of energy and determination. With regard to Mr. BETTLEY, he is highly respectable; but, being somewhat advanced in years, and having been one of the Salvador House "originals," and caught napping, some care must be observed to prevent his falling again into an unconscious state of supineness.

But the very first step which these gentlemen have made is a blunder, as was clearly shown by Mr. DUNSTON, who discussed the point with considerable ability, contending that their appointment was illegal, inasmuch as the late manager had no power to make such appointment. He had no feeling in the matter beyond a desire to see the committee legally constituted; and if their appointment were now confirmed, the meeting would be only weakening, instead of strengthening, the hands of such committee. He had been informed by the late manager that Mr. MATTHEWS, the pursuer, who was now present, was a director; and if that were so, that gentleman could appoint a committee. Mr. MATTHEWS said, he had not acted on the committee for years; and although he had never virtually resigned, he did not consider himself as a member of the board. The

chairman said, it appeared to him that the meeting might, if they thought fit, confirm the appointment. After a protracted discussion, the following resolution was passed:—"That this meeting, so far as it has the power, approves of the receipt by Mr. T. T. of ore bills; and the meeting does, so far as it can, request the same gentlemen to act until a special general meeting has been convened."

THE IRON AND METAL TRADES OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN BIRMINGHAM.]

MARCH 22.—From information which I received to-day from some of the leading iron masters of the district, and a careful perusal of the most recent articles in the local journals relative to the trade, I can have no hesitation in saying that things, on the whole, are decidedly reassuring. The two failures already announced are in course of arrangement, and likely to be settled without a sacrifice of the assets consequent upon bankruptcy or litigation. On Saturday last a private arrangement was filed in the Bankruptcy Court for the settlement of the affairs of one firm, and with beneficial results. Relative to the large house, respecting which such apprehensions were entertained, there is certainly nothing unfavourable to report. All the bills which have become due up to the present time have been paid, and the liabilities of the firm very materially reduced during the last fortnight. Much exaggeration has also gone abroad as to the amount of bills in circulation by the house. It is more than probable the reported half-million might be safely reduced to half that amount, and with means as yet of carrying on. With respect to the rumours of smaller houses, consequent upon the larger, they are unfounded; and, although all may not yet weather the storm, there is now well-founded hopes that we have seen the worst of the crisis. Orders for America and the home market continue to arrive, and there is a much better tone in the market this week than has been for some time past. Prices, however, are unsatisfactory to the large houses. Those who are able to hold require a remunerative price, and are not giving way to the extent anticipated, nor will they so long as it is possible to uphold reasonable prices.

With a view to meet the requirements of the Iron trade, the coal masters have held a meeting at Stourbridge, at which they resolved upon giving notice of an immediate reduction of the men's wages. The colliers will be reduced 1s. per day, and the stonemen 9d. In the Shropshire district a similar reduction is to take place. The Madeley Wood Company have given notice of the reduction, and the men employed by the Coalbrook Dale Company have received notice of a reduction of 10 per cent. Throughout the Potteries a similar wages movement is going on, and with very little opposition on the part of the men. They are no doubt aware of the difficulties the masters have to contend against, and they have very properly submitted to their loss, as one of necessity. The demand for coal continues brisk, and as yet prices remain firm, and will do so until the term of the notices to the men are expired.

The Copper trade remains firm, with an abundance in the market, and the same will apply to the Tin trade.

The stocks are not heavy, on the contrary, they have been reduced by increased demand for general brass work.

In the general Hardware trade there has been an improvement, particularly for the American market. Prices, however, remain as they were last week, and without any immediate prospect of change.

The Jewellery and fancy trades are exceedingly dull, and the hands in many of the large manufactories are on half-time. The travellers, however, are beginning to send home more favourable accounts from Lancashire and Yorkshire, where large quantities of inferior jewellery is annually consumed in times of good trade, and hopes are entertained of a speedy revival. All, however, seems subject to the war—the weary, dreary, unsatisfactory war.

Discounts continue high throughout this district, the loan societies are reaping a good harvest, and the banks still continue exceedingly cautious. Messrs. Martin, Billing, and Walter George Whitehead, of Birmingham, have specified (through Mr. Shaw) their patent for a new or improved waterproof paper. It consists in spreading on paper, or in impregnating paper, with the compound or composition called marine glue, which is mainly composed of gum lac, or shellac, dissolved in naphtha, to which solution a portion of caoutchouc may be added, in various proportions, according as a greater or less degree of flexibility and elasticity is required. The paper thus made waterproof is adapted for the lining or covering of packages, in which goods liable to be injured by moisture are packed.

Mr. William Gee, of Birmingham, has specified his patent for improvements in the manufacture of braces, used for boring, driving screws, and other like purposes. The braces used by carpenters and others for drilling, boring, and other purposes, and called "joiner's braces," are usually made of wood or solid iron. This invention consists in making them of sheet iron, or other sheet metal. In making a brace the inventor fashions a piece of sheet metal by stamping, pressing, or otherwise, into the form of one-half of the brace, and he fashions another piece of metal into the form of the other half, and after placing them edge to edge, solders, by hard solder, the two pieces together. Braces made according to this invention are much lighter and more convenient to use than the ordinary "joiner's brace," and they are also more economical in construction.

IRON AND COAL TRADES OF YORKSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN CHESTERFIELD.]

MARCH 22.—There is no material alteration in the position of the Iron Trade this week. The accounts from the different districts are somewhat conflicting in their nature, but, judging from the whole, we rather incline to the opinion that a more cheerful tone prevails, though the position of affairs is anything but satisfactory, and the trade is considerably depressed, if compared with what it was last year. The prices of different descriptions of iron are variously quoted, a proof that underselling is going on. There are more hopeful prospects of a good American demand; though the new Tariff Bill, which we noticed last week, for the reduction of importations 6 per cent., has been rejected by the American Senate. The demand for rails, and iron for rails stock, is much improved.

The Scotch Pig-iron market maintains its position. The latest quotations are about the same as previously noticed.

The receipt of more favourable advices from America, and the easy state of the money market at New York, has caused an improvement in the Steel Trade, which has been already felt by the Sheffield manufacturers.

The assizes for Yorkshire and Derbyshire have been held this week; and both on the civil and criminal sides of the bar several cases have occurred of much interest to mining districts. Those cases in the criminal courts are against miners who have performed their duties so negligently as to sacrifice human life. One case was that of a miner named David Tarlton, who had drawn up a chair from the bottom of the pit before the bell had rung, and the consequence was that a miner had been drawn against the archway and killed. Another was that of a man named Thomas Calladine, who, instead of carrying, threw a piece of timber down the pit, which fell on the head of a miner, and he died from the injury. The third case was that of John Keenlyside, who had the care of the underground boilers at Staveley Collieries, and his offence was in having, by sheer negligence, permitted a boiler to work at 30 lbs. pressure per inch, when the boiler plates had in some places become reduced to the thickness of a shilling. The boiler burst, and caused the death of two men. These prisoners had not been disposed of at the time of our writing, but the judge, in his charge, considered them all to be very proper cases for trial.

On the civil side, an action was brought before Mr. Baron Parke, by Mr. Joseph Mitchell, of Worsborough, near Barnsley, coalmaster, against Mr. George Jarratt and Mr. Samuel Sharp, the lessees of the Darley Main Colliery, for breaking and entering certain seams and beds of coal belonging to Mr. Mitchell, and making drifts and other works, whereby certain buildings were undermined. The gross quantity of coal taken by the defendants was estimated at 6506 tons; and, making a deduction of 1301 tons for waste, the net quantity was 5205 tons. The total estimated value was 1420l. 10s. 7d., and, allowing 216l. 17s. 8d. for hurrying and drawing, 1203l. 12s. 11d. appeared to be the net value. The plaintiff also claimed compensation for way-leave. It was calculated that the net quantity of coal carried by the defendants through the plaintiff's coal bed was 44,244 tons, for which a charge of 184l. 7s., being at the rate of 1d. per ton, was made. There remains in the plaintiff's land 2 roods 7 perches of ungoten coal; and it was suggested that the defendants should get it, as it would not be worth while for the plaintiff to do, under the circumstances, and pay for it at the ordinary rate per acre, which would amount to a further sum of 163l. 2s. 6d., making the total amount of the plaintiff's claim to be 1661l. 2s. 6d. It was arranged that the plaintiff should have a verdict for 900l., no charge to be made for way-leave, and

the defendants to take the remainder of the coal, leaving sufficient support. Mr. Wells, a coal merchant at Hull, brought an action against the West Riding of Yorkshire Trade Protection Society, for damages for defamation of character. On the 7th of December last, in the weekly Circular of the society, in the account of bills of sale, were inserted the names of Mr. Charles Wells and Mr. W. H. Ramer, merchants, of Hull, the sum being 300l. The plaintiff, who had done business with the Yorkshire Banking Company, at Hull, for ten or eleven years, was sent for by Mr. English, the manager, in consequence of the entry in the Circular of the society, and it was with difficulty that he could prove the falsity of the information given against his credit by the Trade Protection Society. After a conference with counsel, it was arranged to take a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 40s., accompanied by a declaration that the society had not the slightest imputation to make against the plaintiff's character.

At the Sheffield District Court of Bankruptcy, on Saturday last, Mr. Samuel Pilsoll, coal-merchant, came up for his final examination, unopposed. The bankrupt carried on his business by purchasing coal in the neighbourhood of Sheffield, and sending it by rail to supply the London market. His accounts commence on the 1st of January, 1854, when he began business with a capital of 219l. The liabilities contracted since that time amount to 2633l. 12s. 9d.; to meet which there are assets amounting to 1833l. 11s. 11d.—namely, good debts, 703l. 2s. 8d.; cash, 128l. 2s. 7d.; stock-in-trade, furniture, &c., 1002l. 6s. 8d., included in which last item are 301 tons of coal, &c. (estimated at 559l. 10s.) in the possession of the Midland and London and North-Western Railway Companies, and claimed by them in part satisfaction of their debts. The losses, mostly by the sale of coal and coal trucks under cost value, are stated at 316l. 7s. The trade expenses for the thirteen months the bankrupt was in business are stated at 1293l. 19s. 10d.; the heaviest item being the hire of coal wagons, put down at 411l. 9s. The expenses of weighing and unloading coal are stated to have been 258l. 13s. 10d.; incidental expenses, 262l. 7s. 10d.; household expenses for bankrupt, his mother, and two sisters, 217l. 12s. 4d.—The only dispute at the hearing to-day (which was also for the proof of debts) was in reference to the claims of the Midland Wagon Company. The bankrupt was under contract, by a written agreement, to hire from the company a certain number of wagons for seven years. The rent of these wagons was payable monthly, and was discharged in full by bankrupt up to the 31st December last. The total claim of the company was for 91l. 0s. 6d., 13l. 17s. 2d. of which was for the rent accruing for part of a month, from the end of December till the time in January when Pilsoll became bankrupt.—Mr. Hoole objected to this item of 13l. 17s. 2d., on the ground that it was not actually due at the time of the bankruptcy, and the company could not have distrained for it.—The Commissioner held that this item was not good, and that it must be struck out, reducing the total claim to 77l. 3s. 4d. Another point of difference was in reference to a sum for rent of wagons charged by the company against the assignee since the bankruptcy, on the plea that the assignee was bound to carry out the bankrupt's agreement with the company. Mr. Harrison, manager to the Wagon Company, in answer to Mr. Hoole, admitted that notice had been given that the assignee would not take up the bankrupt's lease; and a letter from Messrs. Hoole and Yeomans to the company's solicitors (dated March 1st) was read, in which it was stated that the assignee intended to abandon the agreement. Some argument took place upon this point; but Mr. Commissioner West refused to make an order for the amount asked for.

Although a general movement appears to be going on in the Staffordshire mining districts to reduce the wages of colliers, we have not heard of any similar steps being taken either in Yorkshire or Derbyshire. No doubt, if it should become general, these counties will follow the example of their neighbours.

STOCK, MINING, AND RAILWAY SHARES IN IRELAND.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN.]

MARCH 22.—The Stock Market during the past week has gradually declined, and both Consols and New Three per Cent. closed to-day at 92½, being a reduction of about ½ since Thursday last. The changes in the Share Market have been of little importance, and scarcely furnish subject for a report. Great Southern and Western Railway shares, as I anticipated, have advanced to 46½, at which price they closed to-day; they are in good favour at present, as the traffic receipts continue steadily to improve; Midland Great Western shares maintain their price of 49½; Waterford and Limerick shares are unsaleable at 22½; and Waterford and Kilkenny shares are enquired for. No alteration occurred in mining shares, and no transaction has taken place in them, with the exception of Mining Company of Ireland shares, which have been done at 16½.

CROWN CLAIMS BELOW HIGH-WATER MARK.—In the House of Commons, last night, Mr. Bell enquired of the Attorney-General whether any and what progress had been made towards a settlement of the rival claims of the Duchy of Cornwall and the Woods and Forests to minerals below high-water mark; also, if any arrangement had been proposed by which leases, or licenses, can be granted pending the settlement of these claims to parties desirous of working mines in the disputed localities, or what prevents such an arrangement being entered into?—The Attorney-General said, that some progress was making towards the settlement of the question. It had been proposed by the law officers of the Crown that a bill should be brought into Parliament to make an arrangement for granting leases while this dispute was pending. That proposition was, however, at the suggestion of the officers of the Duchy, postponed, in the hope that the negotiations which had been commenced would dispense with the necessity of it.

CORNISH MINERS FOR THE CRIMEA.—As it seems Sebastopol must be taken before a lasting peace can be made, and as perhaps its capture will depend a great deal on the success of the siege, the Cornish Miners ask—"Do you not think a 'corps' of Cornish miners would be of great service? It seems to me that men who have all their lives been employed in mining would do very much more, and better work, than men who perhaps never broke ground before they went to the Crimea. I think, after examining the ground, I could contract with Government to take the place. I would first ascertain the hardness of the rock, and the distance to drive; then put down a shaft, drive a large level just up to the walls, and then branch off into three or four large levels, with smaller ones branching off, all the while with powder, and, when all was prepared, 'give them a lift heavenwards.' I know not how the Royal Engineers manage the mines, but I think the above very feasible, and that it may save a vast amount of expense."

IMPROVEMENTS IN GUNNERY.—We are induced to make a few brief remarks on the progress of gunnery, in consequence of a successful repetition of a series of experiments with Mr. Spargo's newly-invented double gun, for the discharge of that most destructive missile, "chain shot." These experiments were chiefly made to test the strength and durability of the chains to which the shot are attached, and they clearly established the important fact that this improved system of gunnery can be made equally applicable to naval as to military warfare. The first cannons constructed were made of iron bars, laid lengthways, and secured by strong iron hoops; and, as some writers have represented, with thin sheets of iron, rolled together and hooped, exemplifying that the earliest pieces of artillery were manufactured with wrought-iron, the principle Mr. Spargo proposes to adopt, and which has now been sanctioned by her Majesty's Government. The earliest cannons used were small, and the shot made of lead; but a mania for larger pieces of ordnance arose, and some of extraordinary size and power were constructed. At the siege of Constantinople, the Turks used cannon that discharged stone balls weighing 500 lbs. Louis IV. of France had one of the same dimensions, and there were at the same period numerous others that carried shot of from 80 lbs. to 100 lbs. each. These large pieces of ordnance were disused and abandoned for nearly two centuries, and cannon of smaller size and calibre, with their shot of iron instead of lead, were introduced, 42 pounders for the navy, and 22 pounders for the artillery being the maximum adopted. These in turn are about to be abandoned, and the recently introduced Lancaster guns are approximating to the ancient principle, by their capability of discharging larger shot, and taking a more extensive range. We, unfortunately, have not space nor leisure at present to extend our remarks to the improvements of Mr. Morgan, of Bristol, or on the cannons now in the course of manufacture, of hammered wrought-iron, at the Bridgewater Foundry, Patriotic, Manchester, and necessarily recur to the improvements introduced by Mr. Spargo. His guns are of peculiar construction, and the principle of the bore, as in the case of Mr. Lancaster's guns, has not been made known. Mr. Spargo has unquestionably proved, contrary to all expectation, and to the objections raised by some practical men, that he can, by the simplest means, and without the hazard of failure, effect the simultaneous discharge of several of his improved cannon without resorting, as suggested by a most intelligent gentleman in Glamorganshire, to the formation of a galvanic battery, or other expensive apparatus. The chains used in these series of experiments stood the test of nineteen successive discharges, without the slightest fracture or other injury, although the explosive power was increased at each discharge. In our Journal of the 21st Feb., we inserted a paragraph, in which the alleged originality of cannon for the discharge of chain shot was attributed to Mr. Mather, of South Shields. Without the least intention to impugn the accuracy of that paragraph, or to deny Mr. Mather what he contends for—an originality of invention—we are bound, in justice to Mr. Spargo, to state that he never heard of Mr. Mather, or of his alleged invention, until he read the paragraph to which we have referred; and so far as an originality of idea and thought extends, Mr. Spargo is entitled to the greatest credit, as he has established the accuracy of the principle involved in his invention by the surest tests required by practical men, and by the publicity of his experiments. We understand that he was in the course of construction other cannons of a larger size and calibre, he being determined to work his invention to perfection, and thus make an addition to our warlike stores by another powerful means of attack and defence in the momentous struggle in which our country is engaged, to curb the ambition and power of a semi-barbarous nation, and to enforce a satisfactory and lasting peace, for the benefit of the world at large. Mr. Spargo has heretofore pursued the paths of peace, having been educated as a practical miner in Cornwall, in which county he was born; but war, and such a war as that in which we are now engaged, works strange and powerful impulses in the human mind.

STRAY PIG MINE.—As John Cowling was sending up a piece of wood by a rope, it by some means slipped, knocked him into the shaft, and killed him.

GENERAL SCREW STEAM SHIPPING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held at the London Tavern, yesterday.

Mr. THOMAS DAKIN in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN read the notice convening the meeting, and, after regretting the unavoidable absence of Mr. Charles Hutton, called attention to the last paragraph, which stated that it was to consider and determine on the best steps for maintaining their rights and privileges in common with those of the proprietors at large. It struck those gentlemen that the proceedings of the directors had not been in accordance with those principles generally adopted in large concerns in the City of London. The last four or five months had been a very eventful period in their affairs. There had been no less than five meetings, and, as far as publicity was concerned, everything had been done to enable the directors to arrive at the precise opinion of the shareholders with regard to the manner the business had been conducted. The last half-yearly accounts presented by the directors represented the surplus to be the sum of 77,799l. 10s. 10d., out of which a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. was proposed to be paid to the shareholders; but the statement of accounts not being considered satisfactory, Mr. Raikes Currie was of opinion they ought not to be adopted; and upon taking a ballot, his view of the case was carried by a majority of 377 votes. It was then agreed that the accounts should be submitted to two eminent accountants, when, instead of a surplus, a deficiency was found, amounting to 142,429l. 1s. 7d., which, added to the surplus, made a difference of 220,177l. 12s. 5d. between the accounts furnished and vouched for by the directors and those of the committee. Although the directors had adopted every method to obtain the opinion of the proprietors, after five meetings they had sent a circular, which he was satisfied must surprise them, as notwithstanding they had frequently stated that it was not their intention to retain their seats, according to the singular letter of the 20th inst., the first paragraph said they did not intend to retain their positions at the board, and the last paragraph that three members had offered themselves for re-election, at the wish of the requisitioners, with whom the chairman had declared they had no connection whatever! The chairman having fully detailed the proceedings at the various meetings since November last, concluded by calling upon the proprietors present not to deviate from the course they had recently pursued, but take steps to maintain their rights and privileges, in common with those of the proprietary at large.

Mr. RAIKES CURRIE, M.P., said, after the able account of the proceedings given by the chairman, he should not detain them long, and wished to avoid making observations that would give pain to others. Himself, and eight other gentlemen, had received a requisition from a large and influential body of shareholders, and he (Mr. Currie) wished to state the principles upon which the affairs of the company ought to be conducted. He would, therefore, read a statement he had drawn up. Mr. Currie then submitted a document as to future proceedings, as follows:—1. That no dividends should be paid, except out of bona fide profits. 2. That the present establishment should be reduced, and all superfluous expenditure cut down. 3. That the board of directors should be wholly free from any trading connection with the company, either by agency or otherwise. 4. To conduct the business of the company more directly through the medium of practical men, immediately under the supervision and responsibility of the board. 5. To keep steadily in view the realization of capital, by taking advantage of every opportunity for effecting satisfactory sales. (Cheers.) Mr. Currie said they had adopted these rules, expecting to have the confidence of a large body of the proprietors; and, indeed, they would not accept office unless they were cordially supported by them. He was not one that had taken a desponding view of their affairs, and should the list proposed be elected, he would be greatly disappointed if, when they had resigned office, they did not leave the affairs of the company in a much better state than they were at the present time. (Cheers.) He trusted they would attend in full force at the meeting on Tuesday, which was the only method to get rid of the controversy that had hitherto existed.

It was then unanimously resolved that the letter of Mr. Raikes Currie be adopted, printed, and circulated.

Mr. CHARLES MORRISON explained that he had taken no part in the proceedings until it was seen that a change must take place in the board of directors, the general opinion of the shareholders being against them. He considered it important they should understand upon what principle the new list of candidates was constituted. They were influenced by no personal triumph, but were chosen as an independent board; and it was because he had hitherto stood aloof from all parties that he now agreed to become a candidate.

Mr. ALFRED BONE considered it monstrous that directors, who were paid for their services, should be allowed to make a profit out of the working of the company. The letter read by Mr. Raikes Currie contained principles so essential to the successful working, either of this or any other company, that he hoped the parties who had submitted it would be at the head of the affairs. Those who had presented it were quite a sufficient guarantee (hear), and he believed they would yet see the company in a prosperous position. (Cheers.)

Mr. E. WARNER, M.P., said he would not have allowed his name to be put down if any personal feeling had been exhibited. All he wished was, to see an efficient director, and in selecting the names, he had endeavoured to get those in whom the shareholders would have confidence. There was nothing that would weaken the decision more than the appointing of the proposed committee, and he would rather see the old board re-elected than that should take place. He trusted they would attend the meeting on Tuesday, and set themselves against further delay.

Mr. GEORGE WILSON considered it the greatest insult that could be offered to them, to say that the proprietors were not competent to elect a board, but should delegate that power to some other gentlemen, and authorise the directors to suspend the by-laws, in order that they might retain their places. He concluded by moving a resolution to the effect that the objects contained in the requisition, upon which the extraordinary general meeting for the 27th inst. is convened by the directors, is subversive of the rights and privileges of the proprietary at large, and wholly unnecessary for the purpose of electing a new board of directors, and in positive violation of the promises made by Mr. J. U. Ellis, the chairman, on behalf of the board.

Mr. MOORE, in seconding the resolution, said they had received an extraordinary lesson; whilst the whole private shipping interest had been doing well, this company, with an immense capital, and the wide world before them, was in the present lamentable condition through gross mismanagement.

Mr. LEE STREVES said he had a resolution to propose, the practical effects of which he hoped would be the prevention of any further delay in the election of the new board of directors; and in support of which (in addition to what had been quoted of the same kind by the chairman), he would cite the evidence of Mr. J. U. Ellis, in the form of quotations from that gentleman's addresses to the shareholders, taken from the notes of the short-hand writer:—

On January the 24th, Mr. Ellis said—"I am desired, by a unanimous resolution of the board, to state to you that they consider it important for the interests of the company that the directors, whoever they may be, shall be supported by a large majority of the shareholders. Whether the intention be to wind-up the affairs of the company, or carry it on, they have resolved to call upon the proprietors, on or before the 4th of April next, to supply the places of the different members who are now present at the board."

And, at intervals, on January the 31st—"Now, gentlemen, in fixing upon the 4th of April, they (the directors) desire to fix a period beyond which they did not intend to remain in charge of the affairs of the company, whilst they desire to give as much time simply as appeared to them to be necessary, in order that their successors might be carefully elected."

"Speaking with some little reserve upon the point, I think that we cannot resign until our successors are elected. It is not necessary that there should be a vacancy, but the first step is for those gentlemen to address a letter to the board, stating that they are candidates for the next election of directors, then we will take care and prepare all the legal steps for the appointment of our successors."

"I have to state distinctly that no vote on the part of the proprietors, whatever it was, would induce myself to remain in the chair, or on the board of this company. I believe I am speaking also the feelings of my brother directors."

"The question is settled as far as our position behind this table is concerned."

Mr. LEE STREVES concluded by moving the adoption of the following resolution:—

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE GENERAL SCREW STEAM SHIPPING COMPANY.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this board it is essential to the welfare of the company, whether it be the resolution to wind-up or continue the business of the company, and its affairs shall be managed by gentlemen who have the cordial co-operation of the great body of the shareholders. That in order to effect this important object (important to the directors individually, as well as to them in their collective capacity as trustees of the company), they do determine to announce to the present general meeting their intention to resign, and request that measures be forthwith adopted for the selection of shareholders having the general confidence, into whose hands the board may, on any day not later than the 4th April next, place their trust."

Agreeably with that information, and in accordance with the Deeds of Settlement under the charters regulating the proceedings of this company, notices were sent to you on or before the 17th of February, by nine duly qualified shareholders, of their being candidates for the direction, and about the same time, or subsequently, similar notices were sent to you by six other duly qualified shareholders.

On the 19th inst. a notice was affixed in the offices of the company, containing the names and addresses of these fifteen shareholders, and announcing them as candidates accordingly, verified by the signature of the secretary.

We, the undersigned shareholders, in pursuance thereof, hereby request that you will call a special general meeting of the company, to be held on the 4th day of April next, for the purpose of electing nine directors as successors to your seats at the board.—Dated this 23d day of March, 1855.

The resolution was seconded, and carried unanimously; and after some discussion the meeting terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman.

IMPROVEMENT IN SCREW STEAM MACHINERY.—A very simple but effective plan has recently been introduced by Mr. Penn, the eminent engine-maker, for preventing that constant and excessive wear and tear of the bearings on the shafts of screw steamers, which has hitherto been found so great a practical difficulty, and so continually-recurring a source of expense. He introduces between the bearing and the shaft thin slips of wood, which have the remarkable property of entirely suspending that incessant waste of material which, after a certain pressure on the square shaft has been attained, is constantly in progress. This simple expedient has been adopted in the recent repairs of the *Huntsley*, and will probably be applied, if found successful in her case, to all screw steamers. While the surface of the bearing is preserved from waste, singularly enough, the slips of wood show no indication of being rubbed away or heated.

GOLD IN WALES.—Mr. Charles Low has forwarded to the directors of the Cae-gwyn Mining Company the following particulars of his fifth series of assays:

No. 1.	4 ass.	10 dwts. 0 grs.
2.	4.	8.
3.	3.	18.
4.	3.	8.
5.	1.	17.
6.	1.	12.
	6/19	9 6

Or 3 dwts. 4 grs. 91 grs. fine gold per ton of quartz.

These assays are made from another parcel of 5 tons of quartz, which, being of a more friable nature, show a better produce for gold than the last series. I sent you a few days since a general report of operations; and the weather continuing favourable we are progressing with the calcining furnace, which I expect will be finished and ready for annealing within a month.—CHAS. LOW, Bodvren, Dolgelly, March 22.

WEEKLY LIST OF NEW PATENTS.

WEEKLY LIST OF PATENTS SEALED.

W. Bings and J. Haughton: Valves.—C. P. Stanbury: Ringing fog-bell.—G. M. Miller and J. Wakefield: Pistons; also, Railway axles and axle-boxes.—T. Sadler: Manufacturing charcoal.—J. H. Johnson: Moulding and shaping metals; also, slides, valves.—T. Dodds, B. Leake, and W. Fletcher: Machine for heating furnaces.—C. J. Damery: Steam-whistles.—W. G. H. Taunton: Pumps and their gear.—W. Hunt: Utilising compounds produced in galvanising iron.—J. Revelt: Propelling vessels.—C. Lee: Polishing, &c., metal substances.—A. K. L. Belford: Oscillating steam-engine.—W. Jenkins: Casting copper cylinders, &c.—A. J. Burr: Gas meters.

APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS, AND PROTECTION ALLOWED.

P. Spruce, Pendleton—Obtaining sulphur from iron pyrites, and other substances containing sulphur.
J. E. A. Gwynne, Essex Wharf, Essex-street, Strand—Improvements in machinery for lifting, forcing, and exhausting.
P. J. Chabot, Spitalfields—Improvements in supplying air to furnaces.
H. C. Chamille de Ruols and A. L. Marie de Fontenay, Paris—Treatment of certain metals for producing an improved metallic alloy.
J. B. Halsey, Norfolk-street, Strand—Machine or apparatus for crushing and pulverising ores, and for separating the gold therefrom by amalgamation.
T. Griffiths, Madley, Shropshire—Pump for raising and forcing water.
J. Roper and J. Brimley, Bolton—Certain parts of steam-engines.
W. B. Adams, Adam-street, Adelphi—Rails for railways, and in the connections and fastenings for rails.
W. Frost, Wine-office-court, Fleet-street—Steam-engines.
R. Green, Sydney-street, Bromton—Propelling vessels.
R. H. Hughes, Hatton-garden—Transmitting motive-power.
J. H. Johnson, Lincoln's Inn-fields—Axle-boxes; also, Construction and arrangement of electric telegraphs, and in the application thereof.
L. Gluckman, Sackville-street, Dublin—Improvements in effecting electric communications in railway trains.
T. Thorneycroft, Wolverhampton—Ship-building.
W. Kilgour, Liverpool—Manufacture of naphtha, paraffine, and paraffine oil.

GALVANIC BATTERIES.—The Rev. N. Callan, of Maynooth, has specified his improvements in certain galvanic batteries. He claims:—1. The use of the solutions in the proportions described under the first head as exciting agents, in the single fluid batteries therein specified.—2. The use of iron or cast-iron instead of the copper used in Daniell's battery, and in other similar constant batteries.—3. The use of sulphate of iron instead of the sulphate of copper used in Daniell's battery and similar constant batteries.—4. The use of iron or cast-iron and sulphate of iron for the copper and sulphate of copper used in Daniell's battery and other similar constant batteries, so that the negative element will be iron or cast-iron, and will be excited by a solution of sulphate of iron.

MACHINERY FOR THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—CLAYTON'S PATENT.—Yesterday we had an opportunity of inspecting several of the brick-making and tile-making machines prepared by Mr. Henry Clayton, of the Atlas Works, Dorset-square. They are intended for the forthcoming exhibition at Paris, and being got up in an elaborate style, they reflect great credit on the inventor. The machines are beautiful specimens, and carry in themselves the evidence of combining practicability, perfection of finish, and elegance; and as models, these machines may be considered not only worthy of the inventor, but as a good specimen of the engineering abilities of Englishmen.

VENTILATION OF COAL MINES.—A large model has lately been placed in the Royal Panopticon of Science and Art, which exhibits the advantages of employing steam contained in a spiral pipe for raising the air, by which the coal mine may be advantageously ventilated. In this respect it closely approximates to some of the plans now employed for warming and ventilating domestic residences. The economy of such an arrangement is proved by a reference to the fact, that only a third of the fuel usually required for ventilating mines will be needed on this principle.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

ENGLAND.—Subjoined are the traffic returns of the various English lines for the last week:—			
	1855.	1854.	
London and North-Western	£51,299	£49,811	
Lancashire and Yorkshire	18,247	17,392	
London and South-Western	11,695	11,554	
London and Brighton	9,710	10,648	
Midland	25,001	24,688	
South-Eastern	12,548	14,298	
Great Northern	19,679	18,250	
Chester and Holyhead	4,331	3,680	
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire	8,204	7,753	
East Anglian	906	911	
Eastern Counties, Norfolk, and Eastern Valley	20,580	19,454	
Bristol and Exeter	5,368	6,391	
Exeter and Crediton	131	101	
Shropshire Union	710	558	
Birkenhead, Lancashire, and Cheshire Junction	1,741	2,080	
Manchester and South Junction	387	621	
Newcastle and Carlisle	2,920	2,667	
South Yorkshire	1,631	1,854	

These figures show the following aggregate results:—

	Receipts.	Miles open.	Average per mile.
1855	£174,712	3243	£53 17 5
1854	173,951	3168	54 17 11

The aggregate comparison of the traffic is still rather unfavourable.

SCOTLAND.—The returns on Scotch lines are:—			
	1855.	1854.	
Aberdeen	£ 1,968	£2,083	
Caledonian	10,514	10,468	
North British	4,523	4,338	
Edinburgh and Glasgow	4,535	5,091	
Glasgow and South Western	5,176	5,173	

Total

IRELAND.—The Irish returns are:—			
	1855.	1854.	
Belfast and Ballymena	£ 764	£ 859	
Belfast and County Down	210	219	
Cork and Bandon	228	239	

Total

	1855.	1854.
Total	£1,202	£1,317

RAILWAY RAILS.—At the Rhymney Iron-Works, in Monmouthshire, (under the direction of Mr. G. P. Hubback, the manager), one of the largest railway rails ever made has just been completed. It is one of Barlow's patent, and has been forwarded, as a specimen, to the French Exhibition. The rails are so heavy and difficult to roll, that only three have been cast in Great Britain. From 14 to 20 ft. was considered a good length for such, and no one expected more. 22 ft. was the longest ever made before this time. This monster rail is 16 metres, or 52 ft. 6 in. long, and is such a perfect specimen of work, that it is not painted, but merely brushed over with oil to prevent rust, and will be so exhibited. Numbers of people from the neighbouring iron-works have flocked in to see it.

The Geelong and Melbourne Railway have announced that they are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of 3000 tons of rails, 900 tons of chairs, 16,000 pairs of fish-joint plates, 37 tons of bolts, 66,300 compressed keys, and 193,000 compressed trenails.

RAILWAY BILLS FOR THE SESSION OF 1855.—The report of the railway department of the Board of Trade on the railway bills of 1855 shows that the number of bills for railways deposited this session amounts to 104, of which 71 authorize new works, and a total length of line extending over 655 miles, besides 51 miles of deviation, and 35 proposals for enlargement of stations. Of the 33 other bills, 4 are for extension of time, 12 relate to capital arrangements, 33 to amalgamation, sale, lease, working, and traffic arrangements, and 4 may be classed as miscellaneous. Of the 71 bills authorizing new works, 31 are introduced by new companies, and 37 by old. The number of such bills is thus divided:—In England 53, length of lines 384 miles; in Scotland 11, length of lines 165 miles; and in Ireland 7, length of line 106 miles.

GAS COMPANY FOR CALIFORNIA.—As a proof of the rapid strides in the settled state of society now making in California, it is only necessary to refer to the fact that a company is in course of formation for lighting the city of Sacramento with gas. A concession has been obtained from the mayor and common council of that city, giving the exclusive right for the supply of gas for 15 years, and at the expiration of that term the works are to be purchased by the corporation at a fair valuation, or the contract is to continue till such time as they may so. The basis of the negotiation is, that the estimated profit will pay 3 per cent. per month upon the capital to be invested, such being the ordinary money rate of interest in California. The capital proposed to be raised in the first instance is \$50,000, in 11 shares, deposit 2s. 6d. per share; but as the directors anticipate, through the influence they have there, that concessions may be obtained by this company for lighting other cities in California, it is intended to take power to extend the capital as may be hereafter required; at the same time, the liability will be restricted to 12s. per share. One-half the capital stock has been subscribed for, and the works are rapidly progressing, so that the lighting of Sacramento may be expected to commence in the course of the present month. It having been decided that Sacramento is to be the permanent capital of the State, it had been promised to have the State House illuminated on Thursday last, the 15th inst. The next despatches are, therefore, looked forward to with great interest. The following is an interesting description of the proposed works of the company:—The main edifice, which is to be used as a retort-house, is to have a brick front 48 ft. on First-street, by 54 ft. deep, and 21 ft. in height, and the walls are to be 2 ft. in thickness. The retort-house is to be 37 ft. on First-street, and 28 ft. deep, and will be connected with the main building. The office building will be 50 ft. long by 28 ft. deep. The chimney of the retort-house will be 90 ft. high, and diameter 50 ft. in diameter by 20 ft. deep. The inside diameter of the tank for the retort-house is 52 ft. 6 in., and 20 ft. deep, average thickness of brickwork of tank 5 ft. 6 in. The foundation for the tank, retorts, and chimney, are on piles driven down to the gravel stratum, some 28 ft. below the surface, capped, and the whole secured by the 12 in. square, with square iron bolts. There are to be 24 retorts, having one-fourth more capacity than the number now in use in San Francisco. These will furnish 75,000 cubic feet of gas per day.

BOSCREAN MINE.—As John Humphries (of Sonnen) was descending the wharf-shaft, he passed his footings, and fell between 10 and 11 fathoms. No hopes are entertained of his recovery.

The Torgove Mining Company (the prospectus of which appears in another column) seems to be attracting attention. This concession by the Austrian Government evinces a desire to enlist foreign skill and capital to develop their mineral resources.

We regret to state that we have received accounts from Staffordshire of serious rioting by the colliers, in consequence of the announcement of a reduction in wages. In the neighbourhood of Bilston, several pits were visited by armed bodies, and the men compelled to leave their work.

TO EMIGRANTS.—WANTED IMMEDIATELY, for SOUTH AUSTRALIA, MINERS, MINING CARPENTERS, and MINING SMITHS. Persons of various ages disposed to emigrate, and married men with small families brought up to mining professions, will be accepted to go on most advantageous terms by applying to the agent, Mr. CHARLES ALLEN, spirit merchant, Penzance.

Penzance, Feb. 17, 1855.
Mr. Ayres, Secretary to the Mining Association Barra Barra Mine, writes:—"Our tribute men are making on an average from £11 to £12 a month, and other hands in proportion."

CAPT. THOMAS DUNN, of TAVISTOCK, undertakes to INSPECT, REPORT, and SURVEY any MINES or MINERAL PROPERTY in ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND, or WALES. No objection to take the management of any mine or mines in the neighbourhood of Tavistock.

MINING IN IRELAND.—Capt. MATTHEW WASLEY begs to inform the mining public that, in consequence of the solicitations of several gentlemen, he purposes making arrangements for a TOUR through the MINING DISTRICTS of IRELAND, when he will be prepared to INSPECT, REPORT, and ADVISE PARTIES respecting any mines or mineral property in that country, on the most advantageous terms; and trusts that upwards of 35 years of practice in Great Britain and Ireland will enable him to give entire satisfaction.—Communications addressed Kenmare, Kerry, will meet with prompt attention.

M. R. N. ENNOR, of WIVELSCOMBE, SOMERSET, begs to inform his mining friends that he has PREPARED a LIST of MINES, which he considers are FAIR SPECULATIONS, accompanied with ADVICE, and with which he intends furnishing parties desirous, for a moderate emolument.—For particulars, address as above.

MINING INVESTMENT.—T. FULLER and CO., 51, THREAD-NEEDLE-STREET, LONDON, continue to ADVISE CAPITALISTS on all descriptions of MINING PROPERTY; and beg respectfully to call attention to the present favourable opportunity of PURCHASING in both BRITISH and FOREIGN DIVIDEND and PROGRESSIVE MINES, a careful selection of which cannot fail to remunerate all who invest, many of them paying profits of from 15 to 20 per cent. T. Fuller and Co., being in daily communication with agents of practical experience of the principal mines of Devon, Cornwall, and Wales, are in a position to furnish every information, either personally or by letter, and all instructions promptly attended to. Every kind of business transacted upon Stock Exchange principles. N.B. Office hours from Ten till Five o'clock.

MINING INVESTMENT.—Mr. CHARLES GURNEY, No. 4, CORBET COURT, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, will be happy to PURCHASE or SELL SHARES, on the usual commission, in all DIVIDEND MINES, now paying from 15 to 20 per cent.; or in those working under prospects of early dividends.

COLONIAL INVESTMENTS.—The undersigned, having for many years devoted his particular attention to the rise and progress of the various Joint-Stock Associations connected with the colonies, at home and abroad, and receiving regularly their reports and full details of their proceedings, besides possessing many valuable and exclusive sources of information, through his extensive foreign correspondence, is enabled to FURNISH IMPARTIAL and TRUSTWORTHY INFORMATION, as to the position and prospects of ALL COMPANIES, to those who may be interested as shareholders, or as seeking profitable channels of investment. F. L. SIMMONDS, 6, Barge-yard, London.

DUSTON IRON ORE COMPANY.—The shareholders of the above company are hereby informed, that the Directors have this day made a CALL of TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE per share on each and every share of the company, payable at their bankers—either the London and County Bank, Lombard-street, London; or the Northamptonshire Banking Company, Northampton—on or before the 24 day of April next.

THE MIDLAND IRON COMPANY, ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE, MANUFACTURERS OF RAILWAY TYRES AND AXLES FOR LOCOMOTIVE ENGINES, CARRIAGE AND WAGON WHEELS. From the tests to which this iron has been submitted by engineers and railway companies during several years, its superior quality has been generally acknowledged, and can be unhesitatingly affirmed.

THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF COPPER MINERS IN ENGLAND.—Notice is hereby given, that the ANNUAL GENERAL COURT of this company will be HELD at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Thursday, the 5th of April next, at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely.

In pursuance of the provisions of the company's Charter, the following gentlemen will retire from the Court of Assistants, but, being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election to their respective offices:—Sir John Dean Paul, Bart., governor; Sir John Henry Pelly, Bart., deputy-governor; Capt. Charles John Bosanquet, R.N.; William Gilbertson, Esq., John Peirse Kenard, Esq., assistants. The Transfer-books of the company will be closed from Thursday, the 23d inst., to Thursday, the 5th proximo, both days inclusive.

By order of the Court of Assistants, CHARLES FREWER, Sec.

10, New Broad-street, March 1, 1855.

INNEY CONSOLS COPPER AND SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY, SOUTH PETHERWEN, CORNWALL.—Notice is hereby given, that the THIRD HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders in this company will be HELD at No. 52, Moorgate-street, in the City of London, on Thursday, the 5th day of April next, at One o'clock in the afternoon, on the general business of the company.

And notice is hereby further given, that at such general meeting a resolution will be proposed, declaring any share or shares forfeited, under Art. 11 of the Rules and Regulations of the company, upon which any previous call shall not have been paid within 14 days after the payment of the same having been duly demanded by the pursuer; and for the purpose of giving full effect and validity to such proposal and resolution, as aforesaid, all calls now in arrear and unpaid are hereby formally demanded.

By order, THOS. LEE, Purser.

Offices of the company, 52, Moorgate-street, London.

Dated this 17th day of March, 1855.

THE GREAT CAMBRIAN MINING AND QUARRYING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders, upon which any previous call shall not have been paid within 14 days after the payment of the same having been duly demanded by the pursuer; and for the purpose of giving full effect and validity to such proposal and resolution, as aforesaid, all calls now in arrear and unpaid are hereby formally demanded.

By order, HENRY PERRY, Sec.

Offices of the company, 52, Moorgate-street, London.

Dated this 17th day of March, 1855.

TAMAR MARIA MINE.—NOTICE.—A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be HELD at 10, Royal Exchange, London, on Tuesday, the 27th inst., at Two o'clock.—To confirm, or otherwise, the resolutions passed at a Special General Meeting, held this day.

By order of the Board, HIRAM WILLIAMS, Sec.

March 19, 1855.

KINZIGTHAL MINING ASSOCIATION.—Notice is hereby given, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Kinzigthal Mining Association will be HELD as above, on Friday, the 30th day of March, at One o'clock precisely.

By order of the Board, GEO. F. SMITH, Sec.

16, Cannon-street, London, March 9, 1855.

BRITISH AND COLONIAL SMELTING AND REDUCTION COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the ADJOURNED ANNUAL ORDINARY MEETING of the shareholders in this company will be HELD at the London Tavern, in the City of London, on Tuesday, the 27th of March inst., at Two o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

And notice is hereby also given, that the ADJOURNED EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the shareholders in the said company will be HELD on the same day, at the same place, immediately after the conclusion of the Adjourned Annual Ordinary Meeting.

Dated this 20th March, 1855, 8, Old Jewry.

T. M. WALFORD, Sec.

COMMERCIAL NEWSPAPER PRESS.

The following Parliamentary Return shows the number of Stamps issued to the respective Newspapers for the year 1854:—

MINING JOURNAL	189,500
HERAPATH'S JOURNAL	97,500
RAILWAY TIMES	72,000
RAILWAY RECORD	17,373
RAILWAY GAZETTE	5,000
LONDON COMMERCIAL RECORD	59,000
JOURNAL OF COMMERCE	33,000
LONDON MERCANTILE JOURNAL	16,000

Works published at the MINING JOURNAL office, 26, Fleet-street, London:

GEOLOGY AND MAGNETISM. By EVAN HOPKINS. 16s.

GEOLOGY AND MINING.—FOUR LECTURES BY G. HENWOOD, Esq. 2s. 6d.; by post, 3s.

GOLD ROCKS OF GREAT BRITAIN. By JOHN CALVERT. 10s. 6d.

WINNING AND WORKING OF COLLIERIES. By MATTHIAS DUNN. 12s. 6d.

SUPPLY OF WATER IN SWANSEA. By MICHAEL SCOTT. 10s.

PROGRESS OF MINING IN 1854. By J. Y. WATSON, F.G.S. 6d.

STATISTICS OF THE MINING INTEREST FOR 1854. By W. H. CULL, Esq. 6d.

GLOSSARY OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN MINING AND SMELTING TERMS. 2s.

THE MINING GUIDE. 2s. 6d.

THE COST-BOOK.—TAPPING'S PRIZE ESSAY. 6d.

THE COST-BOOK.—TAPPING'S PRIZE ESSAY.—WITH NOTES AND APPENDIX. 5s.

THE COST-BOOK SYSTEM: ITS PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE EXPLAINED. 6d.

CEYLON: ITS PRODUCTS, CAPABILITIES, & CLIMATE. By C. W. PATRICK. 2s. 6d.

BRITISH MINES CONSIDERED AS A MEANS OF INVESTMENT, with particulars of the principal Dividend and Progressive Mines in England and Wales. By J. H. MURCHISON, F.G.S. 3s. 6d.; by post, 4s.

GENERAL SCREW STEAM SHIPPING COMPANY.—At a large and influential MEETING of shareholders of this company, convened by Mr. Chas. W. C. Hutton, and held at the London Tavern, on Friday, the 23d of March, 1855,

THOMAS DAKIN, Esq., in the chair, the meeting was addressed at some length by the chairman, and by Messrs. Currie, Esq., M.P., Charles Morrison, Esq., Alderman Rose, Edward Warner, Esq., M.P., Geo. Wilson, Esq., and other proprietors, explanatory of the position of affairs relative to the protraction in the election of directors in the room of the present board, caused by a minority of shareholders, and contemned by the direction; and declaratory of the independent feelings, and the course of management proposed for adoption by the candidates for election to the board, then present. And the following resolutions were thereupon duly proposed, and carried unanimously:—

That the mode of conducting the affairs of the company, submitted in a letter addressed to the shareholders by Mr. Baikes Currie, M.P., on behalf of himself and Messrs. Henry Faudel, John Ford, O. N., Joshua Lockwood, John S. Margetson, Chas. Morrison, Richard Smith, Thos. D. Stewart, R.N., and Edward Warner, M.P., as candidates for election to the board, be adopted by this meeting; and that the same be printed, and circulated among the proprietors.

That the objects contained in the requisition upon which the extraordinary general meeting for the 27th inst. is convened by the directors of this company are, in themselves, subversive of the rights and privileges of the proprietary at large; are wholly unnecessary for the purpose of electing a new board of directors; and are in positive violation of the announcements and promises made by the present direction through the medium of the chairman, Mr. J. U. Ellis.

The following requisition was then read to the meeting:—

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE GENERAL SCREW STEAM SHIPPING COMPANY. GENTLEMEN.—At an adjourned general meeting of the General Screw Steam Shipping Company, held on the 31st of January last, it was announced by the chairman that the following resolution had been unanimously passed by your board on the preceding 22d of January, viz:—

"That, in the opinion of this board, it is essential to the welfare of the company, whether it be the resolution to wind up or continue the business of the company, that its affairs should be managed by gentlemen who have the cordial co-operation of the great body of the shareholders. That, in order to effect this important object (important to the directors individually, as well as to them in their collective capacity, as trustees of the company), they do determine to announce to the present general meeting their intention to resign, and request that measures be forthwith adopted for the selection of shareholders having the general confidence, into whose hands the board may, on any day not later than the 4th of April next, place their trust."

Agreeably with that intimation, and in accordance with the Deed of Settlement under the charter regulating the proceedings of this company, notice was sent to you on or before the 15th of February, by nine duly qualified shareholders, of their being candidates for the direction; and about the same time, or subsequently, similar notices were sent to you by six other duly qualified shareholders.

On the 19th inst., a notice was affixed in the offices of the company, containing the names and addresses of these fifteen shareholders, and announcing them as candidates accordingly, verified by the signature of the secretary.

We, the undersigned shareholders, in pursuance thereof, hereby request that you will call a special general meeting of the company, to be held on the 4th day of April next, for the purpose of electing new directors as successors to your seats at the board. Dated the 23rd day of March, 1855.

Whereupon it was further resolved unanimously:—

That the requisition now read be duly signed, and forwarded to the offices of the meeting.

Before closing the meeting, the very cordial thanks of the shareholders were unanimously voted to Mr. Dakin, for his very efficient and courteous conduct in the chair.

ROYAL SANTIAGO MINING COMPANY.—The Directors of this company hereby give notice, that they have this day made a CALL upon the shareholders of ONE POUND per share, to be paid to the company's bankers on or before the 10th day of March, 1855.

By the terms of the agreement constituting the company, all shares of the proprietors who do not pay the said call of £1 per share within 30 days after the 10th of March will be absolutely forfeited.

The form to make the payment will be delivered upon application at the office; and the certificates must be lodged at the same time, to have the payment endorsed thereon.—35, Broad-street-buildings, Jan. 3, 1855.

MEXICAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the BANKERS' RECEIPTS may be EXCHANGED for the NEW SHARES on and after Monday, the 19th inst. HYDE CLARK, Sec. 17, Gracechurch-street, March 16, 1855.

MOUNT CARBON MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be HELD at the offices of the company on Saturday, the 31st inst., at One o'clock, for the following purposes:—To receive and adopt the Charter incorporating the company, with a capital of £75,000, in 15,000 shares of £5 each.—To receive and adopt the Bye-laws for the government of the company.—To receive and adopt the new scrip to be given in exchange for that previously issued; and for the dispatch of general business.

By order, FRANCIS STOKES, Sec.

28, Queen-street, London, March 15, 1855.

BRUCUTU GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this company will be HELD at the offices of the company, 31, Lime-street, London, on Saturday, the 31st day of March inst., at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely. The Rev. Josiah Bartlett and Maurice Evans, Esq., two of the directors, retire by lot.

By order of the Board of Directors, JNO. GATLIFF, Sec.

31, Lime-street, March 20, 1855.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE FORT BOWEN GOLD AND SILVER MINING COMPANY.

Accompanying this, I beg to send you a copy of the Mining Journal, containing the proceedings at the extraordinary meeting of the company held on Thursday, the 22d inst.

You will perceive from this, that unless the sum of £5000 can be raised upon shares or debentures, the board will be compelled to stay the works and wind-up the company. The directors and their friends, in addition to the large sums already subscribed by them, are prepared to arrange for £1000, and there remains £5000 which must be obtained by individual subscriptions amongst the shareholders.

I have, therefore, to beg you to inform me, on or before Monday, the 2d of April next, how much you will be prepared to subscribe towards carrying on the mine. You may either take your subscription in shares of 2s. 6d. each, or in debentures, giving a first charge on all the company's mines and property, and bearing 15 per cent. interest.

I have only to add that a subscription equal to 2s. 6d. per share on the amount of shares you hold is absolutely necessary to the carrying on of the mine.

11, New Broad-street, March 23, 1855. W. L. WEBB.

SECOND EDITION.—This day is published, in crown 8vo., cloth boards, with tables, pp. 205, price 3s. 6d., by post 4s.

BRITISH MINES CONSIDERED AS A MEANS OF INVESTMENT.

WITH PARTICULARS OF THE PRINCIPAL DIVIDEND AND PROGRESSIVE MINES IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

SECOND EDITION, corrected and revised, with a large addition of valuable information.

By J. H. MURCHISON, Esq., F.G.S., F.S.S., &c.

London: Mann, Nephews, 39, Cornhill. Copies may also be obtained at Mr. Murchison's office, 117, Bishopsgate-street Within; at the Mining Journal office, 26, Fleet-street, London; and at the office of Mr. W. L. Webb, Tavistock.

REVIEWS ON THE FIRST EDITION.

Mr. Murchison's new work on British Mines is attracting a great deal of attention, and is a very useful publication, and calculated to considerably improve the position of home mine investments.—Mining Journal, Dec. 2.

This is a valuable guide to investors in mines.—Herapath's Journal, Dec. 2.

A very unpretending but useful little volume, and contains much information, which cannot fail to be interesting to all connected with a most important branch of our national industry.—Morning Herald, City Article, Dec. 18.

Any attempt to afford reliable information in the shape of facts must be useful, and tend to make British mines take a better position among the investments of the day.—Morning Chronicle, City Article, Nov. 24.

Mr. Murchison has conducted much useful information respecting a field of speculation on which great ignorance prevails; and has here brought together the details most wanted on

MR. LEE STEVENS'S PATENT FURNACES constitute a perfect

M SYSTEM OF SMOKE PREVENTION AND ECONOMY OF FUEL, for all manufacturing purposes, from the smallest pan to the largest copper or boiler; and is remarkable for simplicity, cheapness, and facility of adaptation. Average saving in fuel, 25 per cent. The system has been adopted by the Government, and is established, and the statutory certificates of the Lord Chief Baron duly obtained. Drawings of a variety of furnaces in successful operation, inclusive of those on the premises of Beverington and Morris; Charrington, Head, and Co.; Day and Martin; Keens and Welch; Fott and Co.; the Times printing-office; and hundreds besides. —Testimonials, official reports, &c., may be seen at 1, Fish-street-lane, City. *156*

OVERLAND ROUTE.—STEAM TO INDIA AND CHINA, &c.,
VIA EGYPT.—The PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY BOOK PASSENGERS and RECEIVE GOODS and PARCELS for the
MEDITERRANEAN, EGYPT, ADEN, BOMBAY, CEYLON, MADRAS, and CAL-
CUTTA, by their mail packets leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every
month: and for CHINA and the STRAITS by those of the 4th of the month.

For further particulars, apply at the company's offices, 122, Leadenhall-street, London; and Oriental-place, Southampton.

EMIGRATION.—AUSTRALIA AND AMERICA.—

Ladies with limited means wishing to proceed to above or other colonies are advised to make arrangements prior to the Passengers' Act Amendment Bill, now before Parliament, being passed, which will tend materially to increase the expense. Present rates, landing passengers and goods on the wharves free:—Melbourne, &c., £15 15s.; New York, £3 10s.; Boston, &c.

WILLIAM BARNETT and CO., 25, Philipot-lane, London.

MERCANTILE, MINING, & AGRICULTURAL LABORATORY,
CONDUCTED BY
W. CROWDER, F.C.S., CONSULTING AND ANALYTICAL CHEMIST,
104, SIDE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Mr. W. CAOWDEN begs to inform such persons as are connected with Mercantile, Mining, or Agricultural pursuits, that he will be happy to perform ANALYSES and

ASSAYS of every description, and to be CONSULTED upon subjects pertaining to SCIENTIFIC CHEMISTRY. A limited number of PRIVATE PUPILS are admitted to the laboratory on the following terms:—

Fee for 12 months' course of instruction, in one payment in advance... £20 0 0

BRICK MAKING MACHINES.
TO CONTRACTORS, BRICK, AND TILE MAKERS, AND

CLAYTON'S PATENTS (ATLAS WORKS) FOR AUSTRALIA AND THE COLONIES.
CLAYTON'S PATENT BRICK MAKING MACHINES offer a most important
and profitable investment.
CLAYTON'S PATENT BRICK MACHINE (of which there are now upwards of

CLAYTON'S PATENT TILE, PIPE, and HOLLOW BRICK MACHINES, of various sizes and construction.

CLAYTON'S PATENT BRICK or TILE PRESSING or MOULDING MACHINES.
CLAYTON'S PATENT DIES, for the manufacture of socketing sewerage pipes.
CLAYTON'S PUGGING MILLS, of various sizes and construction, for tile clay,
brick earth, mortar, &c. And every article connected with the brick, tile, and pot-

The above machines may be inspected, and illustrated catalogues obtained, at the manufactory, Atlas Works, Upper Park-place, Dorset-square, London.

Handington, near Manchester, Dec. 2, 1834.—SIR: Several kinds of bricks made by your machines have been burnt, and I have great pleasure in informing you that they are as good as can be desired. They are in all respects superior to hand-made bricks, and command a much better price. Your machines are simple and efficient implements. I have sent you a few bricks for a sample, which I hope you have re-

I remain, your's, very truly, J. RAWSTHORNE.
Mr. Clayton, London.

BUDGE'S MINER'S GUIDE IMPROVED.

THE PRACTICAL MINER'S GUIDE; comprising a Set of Trigonometrical Tables, adapted to all the purposes of Oblique or Diagonal, Vertical, Horizontal, and Traverse Dialling; with their application to the Dial, Exercise of

Drifts, Loess, Slides, Levelling, Inaccessible Distances, Heights, &c. By J. BUDENZ.
London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

In fcp. 8vo., with Four Plates, price 6s., a

GUIDE TO GEOLOGY. By JOHN PHILLIPS, F.R.S., F.G.S.,
Deputy Reader in Geology in the University of Oxford, &c.,
New Edition, corrected to the present time. 142
London: Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

Just published, in One Volume, demy 8vo., 110 pages, illustrated by Twenty-two
Maps, Diagrams, &c.,

FOUR LECTURES ON GEOLOGY AND MINING

Read at Leeds, Hull, Bradford, Harrogate, &c. By GEO. HENWOOD, M.E.
Forming a complete compendium of these subjects. Dedicated, by permission, to Sir
CHARLES LEMON, Bart., F.R.S., F.G.S., President of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic
Society, &c.
Published (for the author) at the Mining Journal office, 26 Fleet-street, London

Published for the author at the *Library of Theatricals*, 25, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.
Price, handsomely bound in cloth lettered, 2s. 6d.; by post, 3s. 168

Just published, price Sixpence,
THE PROGRESS OF MINING IN 1854

THE PROGRESS OF MINING IN 1861.
WITH
REMARKS ON THE FAILURE OF GOLD MINING IN ENGLAND.
By J. Y. WATSON, F.O.S.
To be had at the Mining Journal office, 28, Fleet-street, London; or of Messrs.

Watson and Cuell, 1, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, London.

MENSURATION FOR MECHANICS AND ARTISANS.
 Third Thousand, with important additions, 1s., or bound in cloth, 1s. 6d.

MENSURATION MADE EASY; or, the DECIMAL SYSTEM
FOR THE MILLION, with its Application to the Daily Employments of the
Artisan and Mechanic. By CHARLES HOARE.

To those who desire to make themselves acquainted with the sciences on which it treats, without the aid of a master, it would be impossible to overrate its importance.
—*Morning Advertiser.*
London: Effingham Wilson, publisher, 11, Royal Exchange.

CLAY PURIFICATION OF GAS.—This process is APPROVED and ADOPTED by some of the most intelligent GAS ENGINEERS in the kingdom, and their opinions are fully borne out by the investigations of Dr. Letheby and other scientific authorities. It will, no doubt, be employed in nearly every work

managed gas-works; and will lead to an enlarged consumption of gas in private houses, from which it is now excluded by a fear of its impurity.—*Terms of license, &c.*, may be obtained of Messrs. HOLMES BROTHERS, Huddersfield, agents to the patentees. In use at the gas-works of Leeds, Preston, Huddersfield, Wakefield, West

Riding County Ga. &c. 176

IMPROVED LIFTING JACK.	IMPROVED HATCHET JACK.	HALLY'S PATENT LIFTING JACK.
------------------------	------------------------	------------------------------

W. AND J. GALLOWAY,

PATENT RIVET WORKS,
MANCHESTER.

For attention of parties who employ

NOTICE TO RAILWAY AND STEAM-BOAT TRAVELLERS.
—ANDERTON'S HOTEL, 162, 164, and 165, FLEET STREET. BREAK-FAST, with joint, 1s. 6d. BEDS, 10s. 6d. per week. DINNERS from Twelve to Eight o'clock; joint and vegetable, 1s. 6d.; with soup or fish, 2s. TURTLE SOUP and VENISON DAILY. TABLE D'HÔTE at Half-past One and Half-past Five, at Two

“What is infirm from your sound parts shall fly,—
Health shall live free and sickness freely die.”—Shakespeare.

THE ONLY REAL CURE WITHOUT INWARD MEDICINE
IS ROPE'S ROYAL BATH PLASTER.
 Price is. 1½d., for children ¾d., each.

BAD LEGS.—Mr. John Stokill, of West Harsley, Northallerton, suffered for upwards of two years with several wounds on his legs; every means were tried in the hope of deriving some benefit, but without success; and the disease ultimately assumed as severe an aspect that it was considered amputation would be necessary in order to save his life. Hopeless as his case appeared, he resolved not to undergo the operation but commenced using Holloway's Ointment and Pills. The result was an almost complete cure.

1990

THE MINING SHARE LIST.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Price.	Present.	Dividends per Share.	Last Paid.
4120	Alfred Conso (copper), Phillack	£11s. 10d.	£14s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
4000	Alfred Conso (copper), Phillack	11s.	14s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2000	Anglian Coal Company	7s.	7s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
124	Ballicadden (tin), St. Just	11s.	11s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
3000	Bat Holes, Worthen, Salop	17s. 6d.	17s. 6d.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
4000	Bedford United (copper), Tavistock	21s. 8d.	21s. 8d.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5000	Black Craig (lead), Kirkcubrightshire	5s.	5s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
240	Botallack (tin), St. Just	91s.	35s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	Bryntall, Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire	7s.	7s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
3000	Callington (lead, copper), Callington	7s. 17s.	7s. 17s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	Cann Brea (copper), Illogan	15s.	15s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
10000	Castle Gate Quarry, Gwynnapp, Cornwall	1s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
250	Comford (copper), Gwynnapp, Cornwall	20s.	20s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
250	Comdunrow (copper, tin), Camborne	20s.	20s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
128	Cwmystwith (lead), Cardiganshire	60s.	18s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	Devon Great Consols (copper), Tavistock	1s.	37s. 380	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2000	Dhurood (copper), Ireland	1s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
179	Dolmohat (copper, tin), Camborne	35s. 7s.	77s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
12000	Drake Walls (tin, copper), Calstock	14s. 9s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
300	East Darnen (lead), Cardiganshire	33s.	80s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
128	East Pool (tin, copper), Pool, Illogan	24s.	100s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	East Wheel Rose (silver-lead), Newlyn	17s. 11s. 4d.	23s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	East Wheel (lead, copper), Newlyn	17s. 11s. 4d.	23s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1200	Eyan Mining Company, Derbyshire	5s.	28s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
404	Fowey Consols (copper), Tynardreath	40s.	30s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
3240	Foxdale, Isle of Man	7s. 10s. 6d.	25s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
320	Gold (New Shares of 25s. each)	20s.	20s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
4448	General Mining Co. for Ireland (cop. lead)	21s.	2s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2000	Goginlan (lead), Cardiganshire, Wales	8s.	6s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	Gonawena (copper), St. Cleer	13s.	14s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
30000	Great Crinias (copper), St. Austell	1s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
13750	Great Polgooth (tin), St. Austell	4s.	30s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
119	Great Work (tin), Gernoe	100s.	21s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	Horrocksfoot (lead), near Liskeard	8s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	Hingston Down Consols (copper), Calstock	23s.	23s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	Holmehush (lead, copper), Callington	23s.	23s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2000	Holyford (copper), near Tipperary	11s.	11s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
76	Jamaica (lead), Mold, Flintshire	31s. 6d.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2048	Kennegry (copper), Brecon	6s. 7d.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
786	Kirkcubrightshire (lead), Kirkcubrightshire	9s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
20000	Lankmore (copper), Tipperary, Ireland	1s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
20	Laxey Mining Company, Isle of Man	100s.	1000s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5000	Lewis (tin, copper), St. Erth	31s. 8s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
160	Levant (copper, tin), St. Just	21s.	100s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
400	Liburne (lead), Cardiganshire, Wales	18s.	17s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
320	Machno Slate and Slab Company	25s.	30s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
160	Marke Valley (copper), Cardona	41s. 6d.	15s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
6000	Mendip Hills (lead), Somerset	3s.	2s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5000	Merilyn (lead), Flint	7s.	16s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
20000	Mining Co. of Ireland (copper, lead, coal)	1s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5000	Nantlle Vale (slate), Llanfyllin	4s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
470	Newtonards Mining Company, Co. Down	50s.	80s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2000	North Pool (copper, tin), Pool	22s.	100s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
140	North Rosekar (copper), Camborne	10s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
6000	North Wheel Bassett (copper, tin), Illogan	11s.	16s. 17	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
6100	Par Consols (copper), St. Blazey	11s.	12s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5000	Peak United (lead), North Derbyshire	7s.	15s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1160	Penryn and St. George (cop. tin), Penryn	30s.	300s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	Phoenix (copper, tin), Linkingborough	15s.	15s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	Polberro (tin), St. Agnes (Preferential)	15s.	15s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
500	Providence Mines (tin), Uny Lelant	20s.	21s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1948	Rix Hill (tin), Tavistock	3s.	3s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
250	South Caradon (copper), St. Cleer	30s.	300s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
9000	South Tamar (silver-lead), Brecon	11s. 6d.	6s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
250	South Tolgus (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	16s.	95s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
248	South Wheel Frances (copper), Illogan	37s.	330s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	Spearmen Consols (tin), St. Just, Cornwall	1s.	4s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	St. Aubyn and Grylls (copper, tin), Breage	80s.	100s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
54	St. Ives Consols (tin), St. Ives	80s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	Stray Park and Camborne Vein (copper)	10s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
9000	Tamar Consols (silver-lead), Brecon	4s.	11s. 3	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2000	Theroff (copper, tin), near Pool, Illogan	7s.	2 1/2	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
8000	Trelane (silver-lead), Menheniot	6s.	6s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5000	Trevelin Consols (copper), Redruth	6s.	24s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
572	Trevelin Consols (tin), St. Ives	11s.	24s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
120	Trevelin Consols (copper), Gwynnapp, Cornwall	32s.	200s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1000	Trevelin Consols (copper), Gwynnapp, Cornwall	10s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
10000	Trevelin Consols (copper), Gwynnapp, Cornwall	10s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
4000	Trevelin Consols (copper), Gwynnapp, Cornwall	10s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
4000	Trevelin Consols (copper), Gwynnapp, Cornwall	10s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	Wellington (copper, tin), Penryn	8s.	6s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
7500	Welsh Potati (silver-lead), Tal-y-bont, Card.	5s.	6s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2500	Widit	3s.	27s. 28	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
6000	West Basset (copper), Illogan	30s.	165s. 170	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
250	West Caradon (copper), Liskeard	20s.	105s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
350	West Damsel (copper), Gwynnapp	210s.	18s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	West Providence (tin), St. Erth	77s.	260s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
200	West Wheel Seta (copper), Camborne	7s.	17s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1228	Wheel Arthur (copper), Calstock	7s.	17s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
250	Wheel Bassett (copper), Illogan	10s.	550s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
250	Wheel Buller (copper), Redruth	5s.	550s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	Wheel Charlotte, Penryn	3s.	13s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
250	Wheel Clifford (copper), Gwynnapp	6s.	28s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5700	Wheel Exmouth and Adams United	41s. 14s.	11s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
128	Wheel Friendship (copper), Darnley	4s.	4s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5000	Wheel Golden (lead), Penryn	4s.	4s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
6000	Wheel James (iron, copper), Roche	11s. 4s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
512	Wheel Jane (silver-lead), Kea	24s.	10s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
430	Wheel Lovell (tin), Wendron	33s.	52s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
112	Wheel Margaret (tin), Uny Lelant	79s.	100s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
512	Wheel Mary Ann (lead), Menheniot	5s.	400s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
80	Wheel Owsley, St. Just, Cornwall	24s.	24s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
240	Wheel Seta (tin), Uny Lelant	79s.	100s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
120	Wheel Seta (tin, copper), Camborne	107s.	280s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
1024	Wheel Trevelin (silver-lead), Liskeard	8s.	31s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
4000	Wheel Trevelin (tin, copper), Gwynnapp	12s. 9s.	4s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
5000	Wicklow (copper), Wicklow	1s.	38s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
10000	Wyrgan (slate), Festiniog	1s.	1s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10

FOREIGN MINES.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Price.	Present.	Dividends per Share.	Last Paid.
5000	Alten Mining Company (copper), Norway	£14s.	2s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
7200	Baden, Grand Duchy of	1s.	2s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
10000	Brasilian Imperial (gold), Brazil	25s.	2s.	1 1/2	0 10	0 10
2464	Burra Burra (copper), South Australia	5s.	13s.	49s. 61	0 10	0 10
12000	Cobre Copper Company (copper), Cuba	40s.	49s.	0 10	0 10	0 10
100000	Colonial Gold, Australia	1s.	19s.	20s. 25s.	0 10	0 10
10000	Copiapu Mining Company (copper), Chile	1s.	19s.	20s. 25s.	0 10	0 10
30000	General Min. Assoc. (iron, coal), Nova Scotia	20s.	16s.	14s. 16s.	0 10	0 10
10000	Linares (lead), Potosi, Bolivia	3s.	7s.	7s. 8s.	0 10	0 10
133815	Mariquita and New Granada	1s.	6s.	6s. 10s.	0 10	0 10
20000	Mexican and South American (cop.), Mexico	9s.	6s.	6s. 10s.	0 10	0 10
185678	North British Australasian	1s.	1s.	1s. 10s.	0 10	0 10
2000	Orberville (lead), Nassau	1s.	1s.	1s. 10s.	0 10	0 10
7000	Royal Consols (copper), Cuba	13s.	5s. 6s.	33s. 40s.	0 10	0 10
104000	San Fernando (silver-lead), Linares	15s.	30s.	27s. 6s.	0 10	0 10
11000	St. John del Rey (gold), Mexico	15s.	30s.	27s. 6s.	0 10	0 10
43174	United Mexican (silver), Mexico	28s.	4s.	5s. 5s.	0 10	0 10

NON-DIVIDEND FOREIGN MINES.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Price.	Present.	Dividends per Share.	Last Paid.
75000	Adelaide Lead and Gold Cons.	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
100000	Agua Fria (gold), California	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
30000	Almaden (silver-lead), Spain	2s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
20000	Australian (cop.), S. Australia	6s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
75000	Brazuca (gold), Brazil	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
80000	Clarendon Consols, Jamaica	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
30000	Dalacarra (silver-lead), Sweden	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
25000	Fortuna (silver-lead), Spain	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
130000	Gladbach (slate), Rhineland Prussia	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
20000	Iberian (silver-lead), Spain	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
12000	Jamaica (copper)	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
30000	Keweenaw Point (cop. sil.)	5s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
2300	Kinross (tin), Ass., Germany	4s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
60000	Liberty (gold), Virginia, U.S.	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
60000	Linares, New, (lead, cop.), Spain	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10

MINES WHICH HAVE SOLD ORES.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Price.	Present.	Dividends per Share.	Last Paid.
3000	Altarnun Con. (tin, cop.), Altarnun	3s.	2s.	2s.	0 10	0 10
940	Baincon Con. (tin), Uny Lelant	2s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
4000	Ballicadden United	3s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
12000	Ballygoness (lead), Wicklow	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
4000	Ballyvaughan, Co. Wick	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
13000	Barytes Company of Ireland	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
4000	Bedford Consols	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
600	Bell and Larnar, Gwynnapp	11s.	2s.	2s.	0 10	0 10
1500	Birch Aler, Bridford	8s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
3000	Birch Tor and Vistler, Lydford	23s. 17s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
120	Bolton Well (copper)	20s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
120	Bolton Well (copper)	20s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
4000	Borlough, Plymouth	4s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
240	Boscun (tin), St. Just	20s.	7s.	7s.	0 10	0 10
4235	Bottle Hill (copper), Plymouth	3s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
4000	Brach Goch Slate Quarries	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
120	Britannia, Llanharmon	6s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
4000	Brownfield (lead), Wales	20s.	100s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
4235	Brownfield (lead), Wales	20s.	100s.	1s.	0 10	0 10
250	Buckin Consols (tin, Ferran)	21s.	2s.	2s.	0 10	0 10
250	Buller and Bassett United (cop.)	31s.	8s.	8s.	0 10	0 10
2000	Bych (sil. lead), Cardiganshire	1s.	1s.	1s.	0 10	0 1